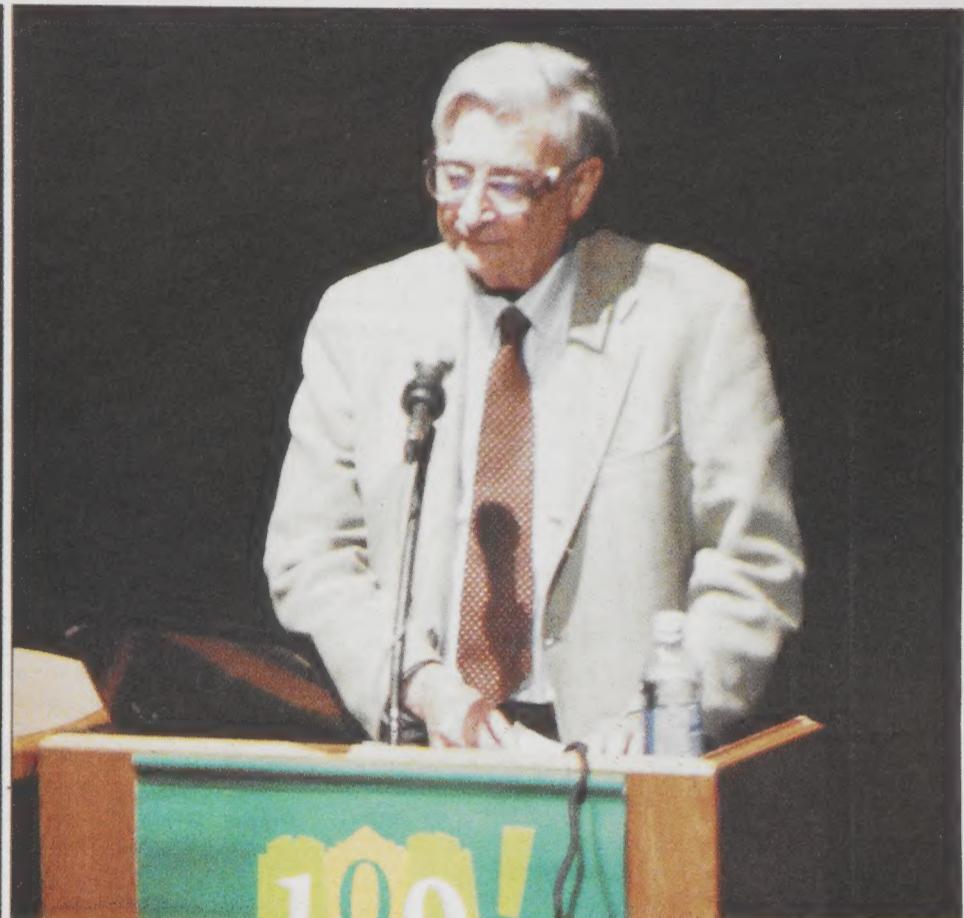
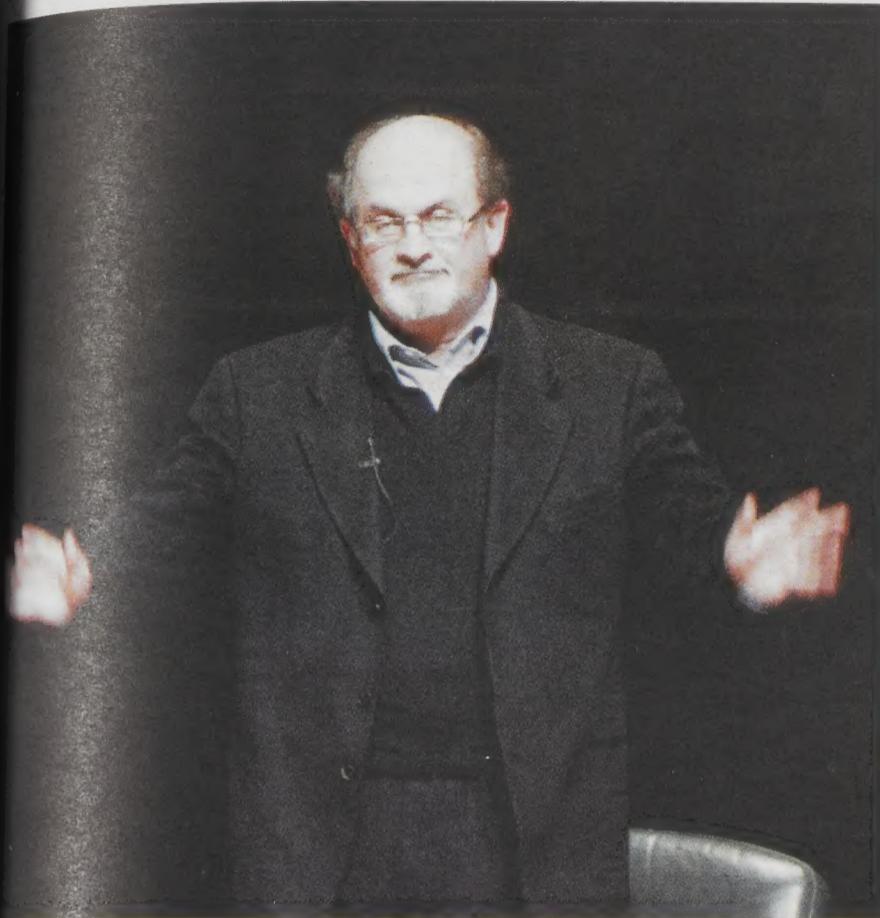


# THE GATEWAY

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**FREEDOM OF SPEECH** Author Salman Rushdie and environmentalist Dr Edward O Wilson were welcomed to campus for the University of Alberta's Festival of Ideas, a centenary event designed to show renowned speakers and their views on fear and happiness in the modern world. For more coverage and a recap of Thomas King's Philosopher's Cafe on ethics in narrative experiences, see page 2.

JILL RICE

## Festival of Ideas celebrates thought in arts and sciences

Former exiled author Salman Rushdie talks about writing *The Satanic Verses* and how living in India changed his perspective

SARAH MALIK  
News Staff

Mention Salman Rushdie, and thoughts are sure to ensue of the threats against his life by the Iranian government after his controversial 1988 novel *The Satanic Verses* was published. But in literary circles, Rushdie is more famous for another work: *Midnight's Children*, which has won critical acclaim and the Booker Prize.

On 13 November, Rushdie sat down with CBC radio journalist Eleanor Wachtel at the Winspear Centre as the inaugural speaker for the Festival of Ideas, held by the University of Alberta as part of its centenary celebrations.

Rushdie discussed his works and how even though the fatwa—a religious edict of death—was lifted ten years ago, he continues to attract attention from Islamic extremists. When he was knighted in recognition for his services to literature last year by the Queen of England, Muslims around the world held angry demonstrations in protest.

"I don't feel symbolic at all," said Rushdie, when queried by Wachtel about how it felt being a well-recognized victim of Islamic extremism.

"I felt there were all these versions of me walking around which didn't feel like me."

For Rushdie, the most damaging part of the

experience, and something that continues to haunt his body of work was that many people developed false impressions about his writing without ever having read it. Because the attacks were perceived by some as obscure, incomprehensible, and humourless, Rushdie said they felt his work shared those characteristics as well, though he thinks of *The Satanic Verses* as one of his funnier novels.

One would think, then, that the seminal moment of his life would have been the publication of *The Satanic Verses*. Instead, Rushdie recalls a decision he made when he was twelve years old and living in Bombay, India where he had been born and raised, and his parents sat him down and asked him if he wanted

to attend boarding school in England.

"It was one of those 'road not taken' moments," said Rushdie. "If I had not taken that road, my life would have been completely different, and who knows if I would have written a book, or what that book would have been. It would have been another life, and another me. Whatever that thing was in me [that led me to say yes] has driven my whole life."

Rushdie was raised in a moderate Muslim family, but is now an atheist and argued on Thursday night that humans created God in order to figure out answers to existential questions.

PLEASE SEE RUSHDIE • PAGE 3

SALMAN RUSHDIE

**"I don't feel symbolic at all. I felt there were all these versions of me walking around which didn't feel like me."**

**Announcements**  
• Welcome to the new Bear Tracks! Please check out the user guide and training video for more information.

According to renowned biologist Edward O Wilson, Charles Darwin's work on evolution sets the stage for future discovery

KIRSTEN GORUK  
Deputy News Editor

As the lineup throughout SUB indicated, the opportunity to witness a lecture given by Dr Edward O Wilson—considered by many to be the father of the modern environmentalist movement—is not something anyone with an interest in biology passes up.

Speaking to a packed audience at the Myer Horowitz Theatre on Monday morning, Wilson delivered the annual Henry Marshall Tory Lecture, sponsored by the Friends of the University of Alberta and the Festival of Ideas. The event was held in honour of the University of Alberta's centenary year.

Wilson, who is known worldwide for his career as a biologist, is currently the Pellegrino University Research professor in Entomology for the department of organismic and evolutionary biology at Harvard University, and is also a two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction.

However, Wilson didn't come to talk books. Much of his lecture centered around the work of Charles Darwin and his integral role in breaking ground for discussions about the great existential questions—where we come from and what we are.

"Charles Darwin is the most important person

who ever lived," Wilson opened, adding that, "evolution by natural selection is perhaps the only one true law."

In detailing the importance of Darwin's work, Wilson pointed to the fact that two all-inclusive scientific laws with no prior exceptions, came as the result of Darwin's ideas.

"Modern biology is guided by two overwhelmingly powerful and creating ideas. The first idea is that all biological processes are ultimately obedient to the laws of physics and chemistry," he explained.

"The second overwhelmingly powerful idea is that all biological processes arose through evolution of those physical and chemical systems through natural selection."

EDWARD O WILSON

The first of these scientific laws is functional and explains how things work, while the second law is evolutionary and asks the question, "Why?"

As Wilson sees it, evolution in a pure Darwinian world leads to random genetic mutation, which will then be sorted out by the invisible hand of natural selection.

"Life on Earth has diversified autonomously without any kind of external guidance," Wilson said.

While this view and the future of biological studies itself could be viewed as depressing, Wilson remains optimistic.

PLEASE SEE WILSON • PAGE 4

### New and improved

The University says goodbye to Bear Scat and ushers in an upgraded version of Bear Tracks

NEWS FEATURE, PAGE 5



### It's Showtime

In pursuit of a weekend sweep, the Bears came face to face with the Huskies' new star guard from California

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## THE GATEWAY

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## colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are Empire Earth and Gears of War 2.

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## Thomas King talks ethics, politics

RYAN BEAUVAIS  
News Writer

Thomas King began writing at the age of 40 to impress a very special woman: his wife. In the twenty years since he first put pen to paper for her, his aim of altering the public's perceptions of Native peoples through narratives has garnered him recognitions ranging from two Governor General's Award nominations to television and film adaptations of his work.

Raised and educated in the United States, King, who is Cherokee on his father's side, moved to Canada in 1980 to teach Native Studies at the University of Lethbridge. Since publishing his first novel *Medicine River* in 1990 at the age of 47, he has become both a Canadian citizen and a distinguished commentator on North America's relations with its Aboriginals.

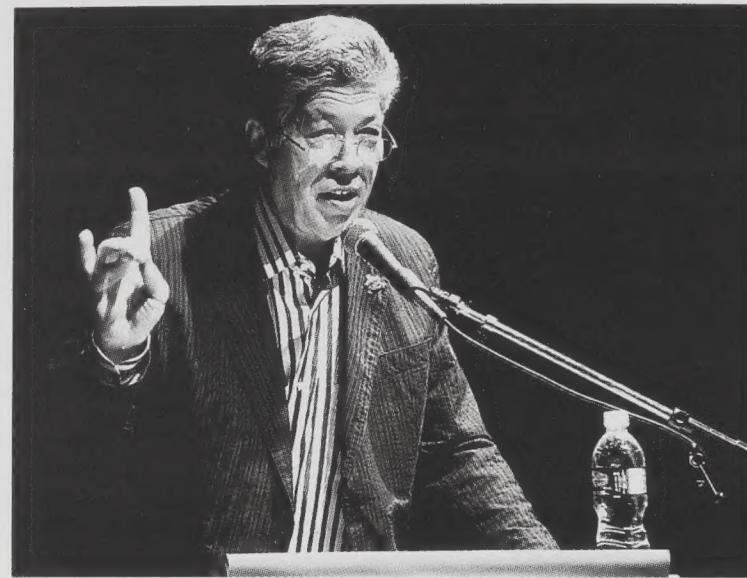
"If we change the stories we live by, we change our lives," he told a capacity crowd of over 200 at the Citadel's Rice Theatre on 15 November. King took the mic for nearly two hours as part of the Festival of Ideas, a University of Alberta centennial event featuring distinguished intellectuals and artists.

He spoke of politics and morality in the same breath as storytelling, asserting the power of narratives to shape society's image of itself, its ethics, and its ethnic groups.

"We talk about our environmental ethic," King said. "Sure we don't like oil on our beaches [...] but we do nothing to prevent such stories from happening again, because the stories we tell are about how they'll never happen again."

"I think we're ethically lazy," he said.

He saw the impact of such illusions first-hand during his foray



CHRISTAL RAMANAUSKAS

**STORY TIME** Native American author and professor Thomas King spoke at a Philosopher's Cafe at the Citadel last Saturday to discuss storytelling and society.

into federal politics this past election, in which he ran for the NDP in Guelph, Ontario. Earlier in the year the environment had been a major concern, but when the economy sank, so did his constituents' passion for green policies.

Though his written work tends to focus on countering the stereotypical image of Native characters in particular, King devoted much of his time speaking about the reality of images and ethics fashioned by stories in general, weaving his message through a story about old family friends.

"I didn't think this story would ever get read aloud," he began and told the audience about Amy and John, who adopted a baby girl with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome named Sam, despite already having two of their own children.

King wondered if Sam's birth mother hadn't been drawn to alcohol because of the media-generated image of alcohol as an addictive, yet socially attractive drug.

As Sam grew, Amy and John's difficulties with her disorder grew as well, and it took its toll on the family.

"I told John people endure and come through hardship better for it," King remembered. "We both knew it wasn't true."

And Sam's story was not the kind one usually hears about, one in which the family endures and the community comes together to help them.

"North America does not have the ethics we think we have," he said of this desire for happy endings.

"We believe more in our comfort than our ethics."

## CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Mike Otto

## IT'S A TIE—YOU BOTH LOSE

Just before midnight on 14 November Campus Security and an ambulance were called to Lister Centre after receiving reports of a male student with severe cuts to the arm. Upon arrival they found two students with deep lacerations to the arms. The pair confessed to having raced from the end of each wing to the lounge with the winner the first to push open a glass door. They both ended up smashing through the doors in their mad dash to victory and received the aforementioned deep cuts. Both were treated by EMS and one was taken to the hospital for stitches.

## IF IT BLEEDS, IT LEADS

At 1am on 15 November, 5-0 was called about a male student bleeding in SUB. He was drunk and after some questioning was found he was on the losing end of a fight on Whyte Avenue earlier that night. He was transported to the hospital for treatment.

## SOMEDAY KIDS...SOMEDAY

Around 2am on 15 November, a resident of HUB complained about a noisy group of wayward youth causing noise in a stairwell. Officers arrived and found the members of the group ranging from 13-16 years of age. They were asked to leave campus.

## BACON FOR LUNCH

Just after noon on 15 November, CS\$ and the fire department responded to an alarm at Lister. The cause of the smoke was some bacon left burning on a stove in one of the kitchens. The floor was ventilated and no damage was caused.

## STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by  
Kirsten Goruk and Sam BrooksTyler McNab  
Education III

As you may be aware, the federal government recently released a proposal to add \$2 billion dollars of funding into the military.

## If you had \$2 billion to spend on weapons, what would you buy?

CJ Carter  
Science IIIWilliam  
Peachman  
Science ILarissa Petriw  
Science II

Military icebreakers. [Which are?] Ships that cut through the ice.

I think I would probably take the \$2 billion and I think I would just update our handguns. I wouldn't go for artillery or whatever.

Pencil sharpeners.

Nerf guns would be fun actually—the orange, foamy ones.



Once thought to be a tough guy, Photo Editor Pete Yee has been the first male editor to drop out of the illustrious moustache competition. It's a move that has garnered him shame from the likes of the lady editor tribunal, and a long, hard road of in-office ridicule.

So if you've got an interest in student journalism, or you're one of the five votes who vouched for Pete to take the win and you feel like consoling him, drop by SUB 3-04. No prior writing or shaving experience is necessary.

## quit • ter [kwit-er] - noun

1. a person who quits or gives up easily, esp. in the face of some difficulty, danger, etc.

2. one who cannot withstand the demands of No-shave November

See also: Pete Yee

## THE GATEWAY

Poking fun at our peers since 1910.

# U of A study unlocks genetic link to detecting childhood glaucoma

CHRIS HUYGEN  
News Writer

Early detection of childhood glaucoma, which is essential in reducing the disease's progress, and can lead to blindness if left untreated, has been made easier thanks to research coming out of the University of Alberta.

Conducted by Dr Ordan Lehmann, associate professor of ophthalmology, in collaboration with the Team to Prevent Blindness, the research was published in the November issue of *Human Molecular Genetics*. Lehmann's study indicated that the occurrence of extra or missing pieces of DNA, called copy number variations (CNVs), could be used to identify pediatric glaucoma.

"Patients had extra copies or were missing a copy of a gene that's involved in normal eye development, and if you have an extra copy or a missing copy, you get structural abnormalities of your eye," Lehmann explained.

The appearance of these CNVs was caused by mechanisms in the cell that induce genes to be shuffled when they are passed from one generation to the next.

"Think of our genes like a very large pack of cards, half from our mother and half from our father. What happens, effectively, is that the genes we receive are being shuffled. What's recently been found is that the shuffling process goes wrong and we end up with an extra copy or missing a copy of DNA," Lehmann said, explaining how CNVs arise.

"Imagine if you go to a casino to play Blackjack," Lehmann stated. "What an effect it would have on you at the end of the evening if the dealer consistently gave you an extra card—you'd do fantastically well. Similarly, if you only got a single card, you'd be wiped out. So these changes in gene number have quite an effect on us," he further mused on the consequences of



PETE YEE

**EYE SEE YOU** Dr Ordan Lehmann and the Team to Prevent Blindness have researched how genetics can lead to an early diagnosis of pediatric glaucoma.

being born with abnormal DNA.

Glaucoma, a condition characterized by excessive fluid pressure inside the eye, affects an estimated 65 million people worldwide, though many may not be aware of it. While the study is relevant for only a rare form of glaucoma, constituting approximately one per cent of known cases, these new findings will make it possible to do simple diagnostic screenings to test if a person is a carrier for the disease.

"At the moment you might have to put a baby to sleep to see whether they have these structural abnormalities," Lehmann said, illustrating one of the more intrusive pediatric diagnostic methods that may no longer have to be employed thanks to the new discoveries.

Despite these revelations, there remains no cure for glaucoma. The study's results, Lehmann admits, did not result in a breakthrough for its treatment, which currently consists

of medication and surgery to relieve pressure upon the eye caused by improper fluid drainage.

However, studying the locations where the extra or missing pieces of DNA occurred gave the team insight into how the CNVs form, proving important in recognizing the disease's presence.

"The significance is twofold. You can detect this disorder at an earlier stage and by diagnosing earlier you can treat earlier," Lehmann noted.

Keeping in mind the bigger picture, Lehmann explained how these findings have effects not only on identifying glaucoma, but also on a variety of other human diseases, including psoriasis, congenital heart disease, and mental retardation.

"We now recognize that more human diseases are caused by extra or missing copies of genes than sequence changes or mutation. Finding mechanisms that cause this has broader relevance to other human sources."

## Rushdie criticizes current version of Islam

RUSHDIE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The problem with Islam, according to him, is that "literalists" take the Qu'ran, the Muslim holy book, to be the actual word of God. What has resulted is not only countries that are unable to have true intellectual discourse about Islam, but also a lack of freedom.

"Our open societies constantly question the principles on which they're based, and argue about those foundations and don't agree about them," said Rushdie.

"That's what we call democracy—not the answer but the argument itself. Muslim societies are ones in which questioning is considered to be blasphemy, heresy, apostasy."

The violence of today's Islam stands in sharp contrast with the Muslim culture that Rushdie saw around him when growing up in India in the '50s and '60s.

"It wasn't narrow and bigoted, it was much more cultivated, and cultured, and open, and one could talk about all this stuff," Rushdie remembered.

"So when I wrote *The Satanic Verses*, I didn't know how strong the forces of Islamic radicalism had become and how far they would go."

He pointed out that around the same time that he was receiving death threats, Muslim writers were

being murdered in their countries for writing inflammatory material—murders that were less well publicized but occurring with alarming frequency.

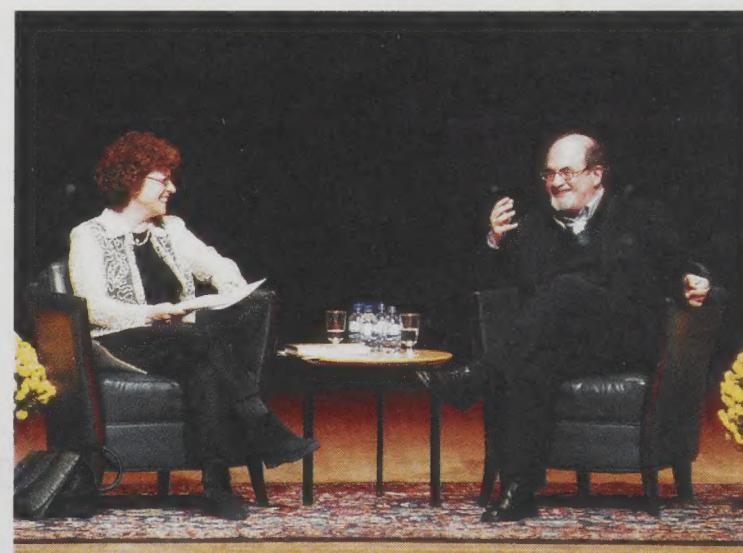
"What was going on was a very concerted attack on intellectual and imaginative freedoms," Rushdie said.

Rushdie recently published his tenth book, *The Enchantress of Florence*. The story is set at the time of the Renaissance and is about an Indian woman traveling to the west.

For Rushdie, it was a learning process, and his research prior to penning the novel made him come to a realization that there are more similarities between the East and West than many, including he himself, realize.

"Particularly at this time, we sit here looking at each other as alien and maybe we're not as alien or 'other' as we think," Rushdie said.

"I've tried to break down that boundary, because it has broken down inside me. I am that combination."



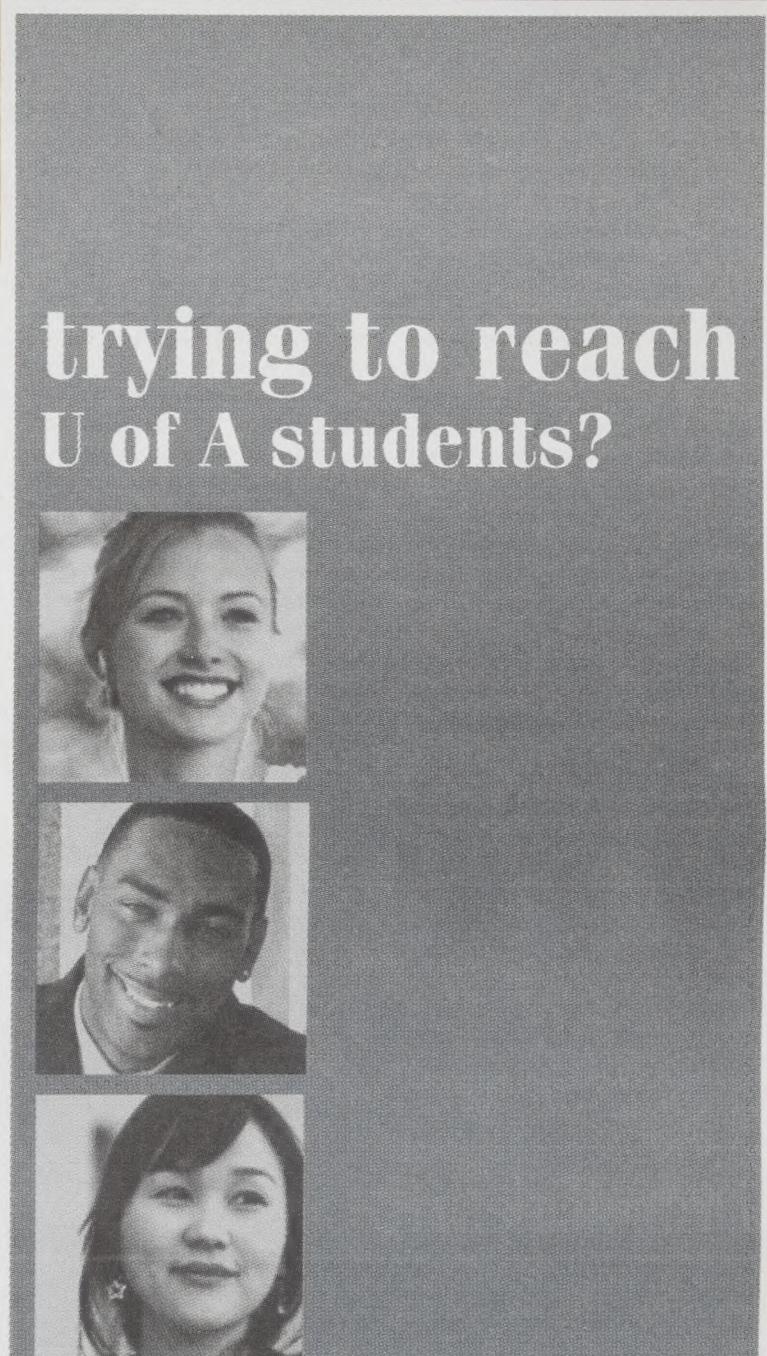
JILL RICE

**IN CONVERSATION** The CBC's Eleanor Wachtel engages Salman Rushdie in discussion over his literary achievements and escape from Islamic extremism.

**The \$100,000 Go Green Challenge**

Form a team of two or more students, and then visit [www.tdcanaadatrust.com/gogreen](http://www.tdcanaadatrust.com/gogreen) and submit your **big idea** for improving urban sustainability to the **\$100,000 Go Green Challenge**.

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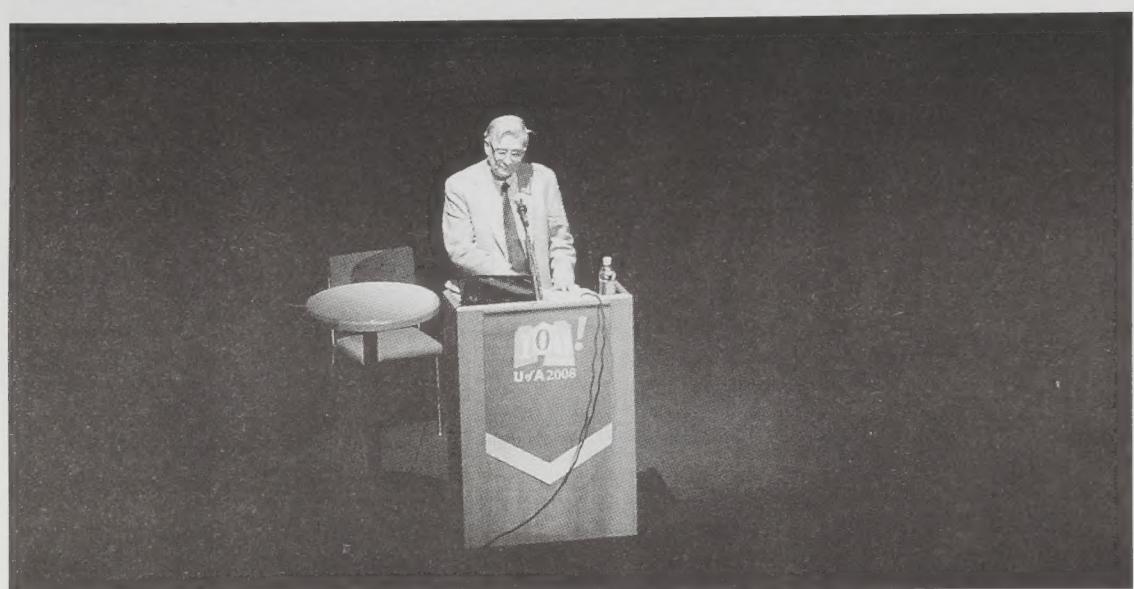


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# THE GATEWAY

## Wilson advises students on scientific field



**PATH TO DISCOVERY** During his lecture at the Myer Horowitz Theatre on Monday, Dr Wilson elaborated on the life of a biologist and described how students can contribute to scientific advancement by striving to make great discoveries.

**WILSON** • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"It's also a liberating concept. We are free. We are responsible for what we become. We can act according to our own free will and reap the deeper knowledge," he noted.

In examining the future of his field of study, Wilson took the time to address the students present at the lecture.

"If you have a new idea, do not publish it unless you intend to do the hard work that goes with it. Why ruin the fun for somebody else?" he explained.

On the topic of inspiration for one's work, Wilson also touched on what he referred to as the rule about the ages of peaking creativity.

"Mathematicians peak in their late teens, physicists in their late twenties, molecular biologists in their late

thirties, evolutionary biologists in their late forties, and philosophers never," he stated.

"With that in mind, you should think about hiring more biologists."

And according to Wilson, continued biological advancement through new strategies of research will require the contribution of a number of bright-minded thinkers.

"For every problem in biology there exists an organism ideally suited to solve the problem," Wilson said of the mode of thought for problem solvers.

Naturalists, on the other hand, are categorized as the inverse of that mode of thinking.

"For every organism there exists a problem for which the organism is ideally suited," he detailed, expounding on the naturalist viewpoint.

Regardless of each mode of thought, Wilson stressed the fact that the students of today would inherit the world of tomorrow.

"To you who are going into biology, all of this [world] is yours to explore and possess," he said.

If Wilson's life is any indication, the nature of scientific research demands that when some result is acquired, something new is learned.

"To be a scientist for life, all you have to do is make one discovery. You see, discovery is the business of science.

"If you make a great discovery, you become a great scientist. And that's who you are for the rest of your life. You can be, in all other things, a complete jerk and you will still be a great scientist. So that's something to strive for."

## Earth past its tipping point: UBC professor

PATRICIA SKAGEN-EMOKPAE  
News Writer

University of British Columbia professor Dr William Rees left audience members with some alarming food for thought regarding climate change after his presentation on 14 November.

Considered an expert on the effects of socioeconomic development on environmental trends, Rees provided evidence supporting the idea that humanity is either at or beyond some "tipping point" as a result of the way it has dealt with ecological circumstances on the planet. This phrase is defined as the point at which human activity brings about changes in natural processes significant enough to render these changes irreversible.

Rees' most compelling support of irreversibility comes from his observations of Arctic sea ice. He pointed out that floating ice in the Arctic is melting at a rate far exceeding what scientific models had predicted, particularly the record melting that took place in the summer of 2007.

"This is measurement data—not speculation, not models. This is what it looks like in terms of sea ice: you see a steady downward trend for the most part between 1978 and 2006, and then here's the 2007 point, right off the charts—a tipping point indicator," Rees stressed.

Through an informal poll of the audience, Rees concluded that no one present believed that material growth could persist infinitely in a finite space. However, Rees claimed that the current

condition of the Earth's climate is likely the result of a basic misconception that growth can continue indefinitely.

"The stock market, our pension plans, just about every kind of financial institution including the basic form of capitalism, is utterly dependent on the assumption of the continuous growth and accumulation of the human enterprise," Rees said.

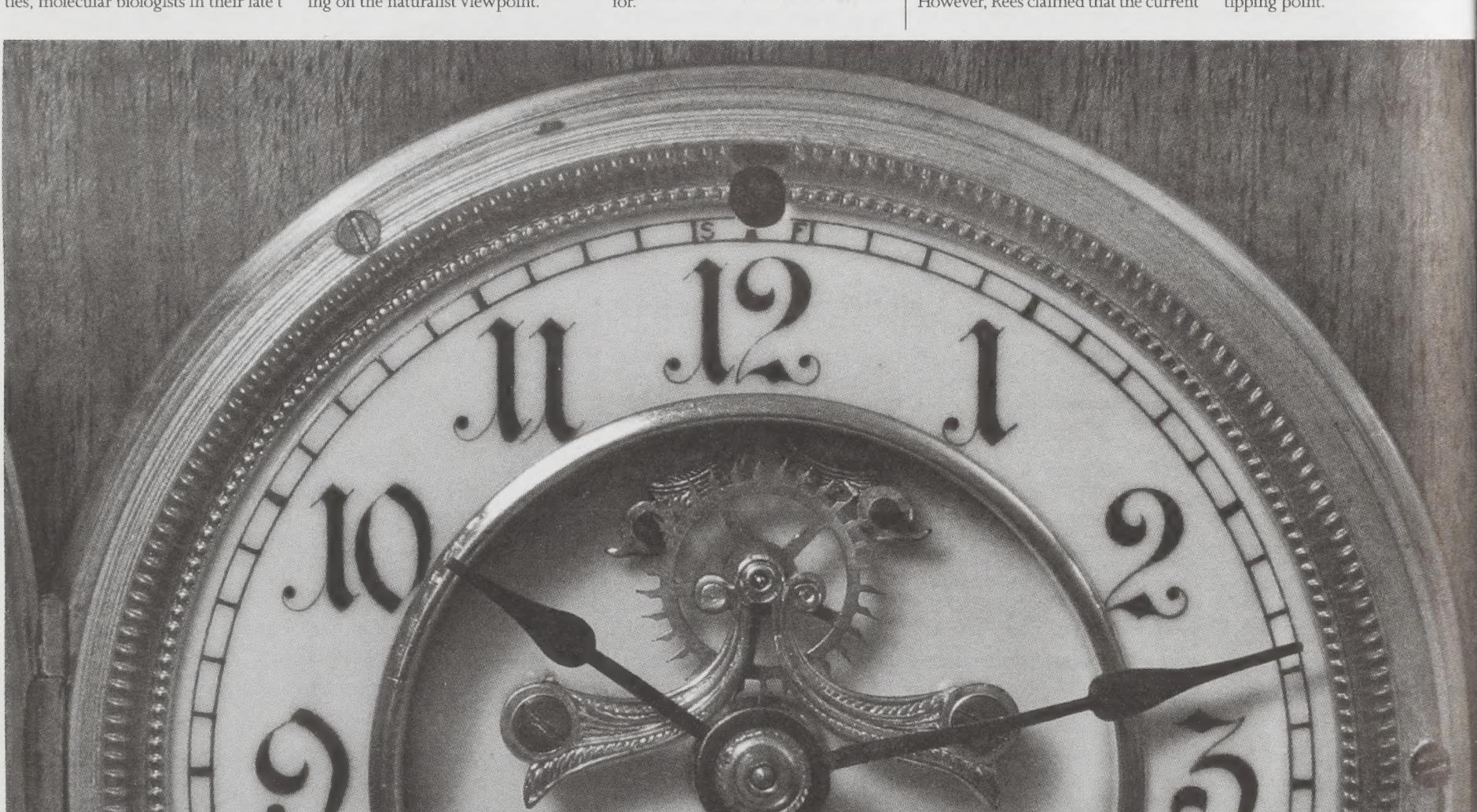
"And yet, none of us believe it to be possible."

He said that for most of human history, people lived in greater balance with the natural world, but the way society currently lives does not reflect any natural system. According to Rees, the unprecedented growth of human society is an anomaly in natural systems, and climate change is the result of this misconception.

"We have to understand that we live in the single most abnormal period in the history of humankind. We are irretrievably mutilating the ecosystems upon which we depend and there will ultimately be feedback on humans," he stated.

Rees believes that there is still hope of remedying the situation, but drastic action may be required, such as a six per cent per annum reduction in greenhouse gas emissions starting immediately. He stated that the changes going on with the Earth's climate should be paid attention to and that now is the time to take action to improve the situation. However, his words suggested that now might be too late.

"We may well have passed the tipping point."



**Got the time?**

**Why not volunteer for the Gateway?**

Section meetings start next week, where you can learn the tricks of the writing trade, refine your illustration skills, or even snap some snazzy photos.

**News:** Fridays at 3pm

**A&E:** Thursdays at 5pm

**Photo:** Fridays at 4pm

**Opinion:** Thursdays at 4pm

**Sports:** Tuesdays at 4pm

**Illustrators:** Wednesdays at 5:30pm

# SIGNING IN

## A FIRST LOOK AT THE NEW BEAR TRACKS

If BEAR SCAT IS WHAT BEAR TRACKS LEFT BEHIND, it's nothing in comparison to what's coming next.

The University of Alberta's online registration system has undergone a major upgrade that's been in the works for nearly a year, culminating on 17 November with the permanent shutting down of Bear Scat and the release of the new Bear Tracks.

"Bear Scat was designed to be a stopgap measure that would cumulatively save students thousands of hours while building their schedules and searching for classes until the time Bear Tracks could provide that same functionality and ease of use," explained Steve Kirkham, a U of A graduate, creator of Bear Scat, and a major force behind the new Bear Tracks.

Kirkham experienced the same frustration most students felt while trying to assemble a schedule and register for classes in the old version of Bear Tracks. In 2003, when the Registrar's Office announced that it would no longer be printing its Registration Procedures Guide—which contained a hard copy of all classes and their scheduled times—Kirkham, then a first-year computing science student, took the initiative to develop a program that would do the tedious work for him.

"A week later, I had a better system online that not only allowed the students see all their classes from

Bear Tracks 24 hours a day, seven days a week, but had a wizard-like schedule feature [that was] able to organize classes in a smart way and pick and choose different sections of the courses [they] wanted to take," Kirkham said.

While upwards of 60 per cent of students have been using Bear Scat to complement their registration processes for the past five years, Kirkham and the Students' Union—who operated and provided funding for Bear Scat—no longer find it a necessity now that the new Bear Tracks integrates very similar features.

"Whenever the University does a

major upgrade of Bear Tracks, a bunch of Bear Scat actually has to be rewritten to work with Bear Tracks. It just doesn't make sense to invest that time anymore when the new Bear Tracks is so much better," Kirkham remarked.

Part of the reason for the long wait in the website's improvements is the University's agreement with the providers of PeopleSoft, the software system used for Bear Tracks. This agreement provides the University with updated software every five years. According to Shelagh Hohm, the director of Administrative Information Systems (AIS), the decision to undergo the massive improvements to Bear Tracks began 18 months ago.

"We decided to have a bigger upgrade than we've ever had before. It took about six months of just planning before we actually decided

exactly what we were going to upgrade, and then the upgrade itself has been going on for a year now," she noted.

The upgrade project was a collaborative effort between AIS, the Registrar's Office, and various student constituency groups on campus. All developers seemed to agree that changes were needed to improve the functionality and usability of Bear Tracks, with the most change directed at the system's poor navigation.

"What the new Bear Tracks has is a left-hand navigation bar, which appears on all pages of Bear Tracks, and it has all the sections of Bear Tracks. So basically you can go anywhere you want on the website at any time. That's a huge usability improvement," said Jordan Claridge, one of the student business analysts hired to work on the upgrade.

Other features include a colour-coded schedule grid carried over from Bear Scat as well as the popular grade notification and watch list features. Unique to new Bear Tracks is also My Planner, to help students plan their future courses ahead of time.

"Basically it's kind of like a virtual highlighter for the University calendar. So just as you might flip through a departmental course listing or the big actual paper University calendar [...] this allows you to do that in Bear Tracks, and it allows you to do it ahead of time," Claridge said.

The University attempted to ensure that students' points of view were taken well into consideration for the upgrade by hiring Claridge and a fellow analyst, Kory Mathewson.

"Kory and I were hired in March by [AIS]," explained Claridge. "We work both on the communications and a little bit on the development too, so we kind of acted as a sounding board for some of the development ideas and provided a student perspective."

To add the student point of view, a novel approach to quality assurance was taken as well, with random students receiving invitations to test out the progress of the new Bear Tracks at intervals throughout the past year.

"We used the feedback from those [usability] sessions and it had a significant effect on the decisions we made going forward with the new Bear Tracks," Kirkham said.

"[The sessions] did a phenomenal job to ensure that our point of view was there and also for ensuring that students have the opportunity to see this early enough in the process so that they could recommend changes," said John Braga, Students'

WRITTEN BY JENNIFER HUYGEN & MIM FATMI



## BEAR TRACKS



### Sign In

Campus Computing ID (CCID):

Trouble signing in? [Forgot your password?](#)

### What's Inside

<b>Applicants:</b> Check your application status; see what documents you still need to submit	<b>Students:</b> Build a schedule; enroll in classes; check your grades; view your exam schedule; print tax forms; and more	<b>Instructors:</b> See your class schedule; view and download your class rosters; configure a class website	<b>Employees:</b> View your paycheque, benefits summary, and update your personal information
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<b>University of Alberta</b>	<b>Registrar and Student Awards</b>	<b>Human Resource Services</b>		
<a href="#">Home</a> <a href="#">Bear Tracks</a> <a href="#">Webmail</a>	<a href="#">Find a Person</a> <a href="#">Libraries</a> <a href="#">Maps</a>	<a href="#">Policies</a> <a href="#">Privacy</a> <a href="#">Emergency</a>	<a href="#">Operating Hours</a> <a href="#">User Guide</a> <a href="#">Conditions of Use</a>	<a href="#">Employee Self Service</a> <a href="#">Pay Information</a> <a href="#">Benefits Information</a>



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Union Vice President (Academic).

To ensure that the changes were made seamlessly, developers have created scenarios on a test version of the new Bear Tracks which they have been continually checking for bugs.

"They're actually trying to do a load test to see how it behaves under load and to tune it, so we're hopeful that there will be very few problems when we light up," Hohm said.

**"We decided to have a bigger upgrade than we've ever had before. It took about six months of just planning before we actually decided exactly what we were going to upgrade, and then the upgrade itself has been going on for a year now."**

**SHELAGH HOHM**

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

In case students do have problems with the transition, there will be a user guide and short video tutorials made available by the Registrar's Office, which students can access from a link at the top of every Bear Tracks page.

"We provide directly the support that students need when using Bear Tracks," commented Dorta Sheikh of the Registrar's Office and a lead on the Bear Tracks development team.

"If students have any questions or concerns when they're working in Bear Tracks, they're able to select a link of 'Report Problem' and also email questions they might have, or come to our office."

However, the developers don't anticipate students encountering any major problems.

"Any [problems] that I did see, I voiced back in May/June, and they have been addressed, so there are no outstanding concerns or issues," Braga remarked.

And while all aspects of the upgrade seem to have gone smoothly so far, communication between the groups working on the upgrade stands out for Braga the most.

"To see the new upgrade actually fulfill students' [expectations] has been an extremely rewarding experience," he added.

"To see the Registrar's Office really take us seriously, and the level of commitment they've had to student services to actually addressing our concerns, has been absolutely phenomenal."

ASTRO 120 — Introduction to the Space System					
Fall 2008	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 AM					
9:00 AM	MATH 113 LEC C1 (53179) CAB 230	CMPUT 101 LEC A2 (56977) CSC B 2	MATH 113 LEC C1 (53179) CAB 230	CMPUT 101 LEC A2 (56977) CSC	MATH 113 LEC C1 (53179) CAB 230
10:00 AM					
11:00 AM	ENGL 111A LEC E3 (54373) BUS 4 13	MATH 113 LAB C2 (53231) BSG G 110	ENGL 111A LEC E3 (54373) BUS 4 13	CMP LAB CSC	
12:00 PM					
1:00 PM					
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM	ASTRO 120 LEC A01 (50879) BSB 3 20	MATH 113 LEC A2 (56977) CAB 230	ASTRO 120 LEC A01 (50879) BSB 3 20		
4:00 PM					

MATH 113 — Elementary Calculus I					
Class	Section	Days	Time	Location	Instruc
53129	LEC C1	M W F	9:00AM - 9:50AM	CAB 230	
53231	LAB C2	T	11:00AM - 11:50AM	BSG G 110	

PHYS 101 — Physics for Engineers I					
Class	Section	Days	Time	Location	Instruc
54031	LEC A7	T R	2:00PM - 3:20PM	T B 87	Ydiquuq-Fe
52366	LAB D7	R	3:30PM - 4:50PM	T B 87	

"The sessions did a phenomenal job to ensure that our point of view was there and also for ensuring that students have the opportunity to see this early enough in the process so that they could recommend changes."

JOHN BRAGA

STUDENTS' UNION VICE PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

### NEW FEATURES, NOT IN OLD BEAR TRACKS OR BEAR SCAT, MOST LIKED BY STUDENTS

Improved navigation and My Planner

### NEW FEATURE MOST LIKED BY ADVISORS AND ADMINISTRATORS

Student Services Center which allows authorized staff to see what students see in Bear Tracks so that they are better able to advise and provide other services to students

SOURCE: BARRY SCOTT, ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

# OPINION

opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca • tuesday, 18 november 2008

## New Bear Tracks out of hibernation

IT'S FINALLY HERE: ON 10AM MONDAY MORNING, the new version of Bear Tracks was launched to much anticipation. And for good reason, too; Bear Tracks has a long-standing (and well-deserved) negative reputation among the student body for being slow and obtuse, and generally unpleasant to go anywhere near. According to Administrative Information Systems and the Registrar's Office—the departments on campus who run Bear Tracks—the new version is improved and easier to use. The question is, with all PR and rhetoric aside, how does the new Bear Tracks actually fare?

In a word: better. By consulting with students (as well as hiring Bear Scat creator and maverick Steve Kirkham), major improvements have been made to Bear Tracks' usability. While the Registrar does provide a user guide for the new Bear Tracks (oh-so-helpfully presented as a 75-page PDF), you probably won't need it: the new design takes cues from both the recently updated ualberta.ca homepage and the simple, concise layout of Bear Scat to create an experience that is, for the most part, aesthetically pleasing. There's substance to the style too: the revised navigation scheme makes getting around the site much easier, with the ability to jump to anywhere from any point thanks to the new sidebar. The much improved Bear Scat-esque timetable colouration works as advertised (although the system automatically picks colours for you), and the watch list feature is also there for easy sniping of the last spot in a PSYCO 104 lecture. Kirkham's influence shows, even in the small details: traditional features such as the course search have been well optimized for ease of use.

Naturally, the new Bear Tracks isn't perfect—far from it. Despite the claims from the Students' Union and Kirkham that it has most of Bear Scat's features, there's still some functionality missing. Take, for instance, textbooks. One of Bear Scat's best features was that it automatically fetched the textbooks for the courses in your current or proposed course lineup. Not only this, but it actually went so far as to help save you money by comparing the Bookstore's prices with other stores like SUBtitles and Chapters. Bear Tracks provides no such feature, instead offering a pitiful link to the Bookstore on the home page. It's not likely that this feature will ever be restored to its full glory, either; something tells me that the University wouldn't exactly be jumping at the chance to inform students that they can get that novel for English for twenty \$20 cheaper off of Amazon.

Another much-valued feature of Bear Scat was the fact that it was open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Although you couldn't view data from or commit changes to Bear Tracks outside of its operating hours, you were still free to create your schedule and look up information from the course calendar any time you liked. While the new version of Bear Tracks has changed its operating hours, they've gone in entirely the wrong direction; the "variable" hours, in which the Registrar recommends double-checking any changes you make, have been extended from Sunday to include Monday as well. That's right—for two days a week, any changes you make to your schedule might not actually happen. The standard closure hours of 2am-6am from previous versions still apply, much to the disappointment of night owls like myself and international applicants planning their courses from outside the Mountain time zone.

Frankly, I could keep going through the new Bear Tracks and keep finding more faults that still remain from past versions (it still takes forever to generate T2202A forms and U-Pass receipts, for instance), but it would be an exercise in futility. The fact is, Administrative Information Systems and the Registrar have taken some major strides forward in making Bear Tracks more user-friendly, and while it's not the nirvana of course management (or even better than Bear Scat, in certain cases) it's certainly exceeded my expectations for the University. They've finally picked up what Bear Tracks left behind, and created an update worthy of a passing grade. Better late than never, I suppose.

LUCAS WAGNER  
Online Editor

## LETTERS

### There's more to crime prevention than just cops

Kelsey Tanasiuk's article ("Bust serial killers, not jay-walkers," 13 October) does well to point out the need for citizen participation in order to ensure a safe and just society. Yet her article makes the common misconception that misguided police administrative policy is at fault for the high violence rate in our city.

The police are merely an administrative leg of the government; a cog in the larger criminal justice machine. Although she does include mention of important preventative measures and crisis resources that address the root of crime, she fails to mention the role other societal institutions plays in the prevention or propagation of violence.

The police are bound to the rules of our country like every other citizen. As well, those we deem criminal are too themselves citizens and protected by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The solutions presented in the article are short-sighted and not feasible given the complex legal framework that exists to protect the citizens of Canada from their government. There are laws that prevent the police from getting "in the face" of criminals or engaging in any sort of detention without proper merit.

The article also mistakenly makes the assumption that criminal activity that results in violence is overt, readily visible, and committed by abusive husbands/fathers or "young delinquents," making it the responsibility of patrol officers to deal with.

Domestic violence is most often committed behind closed doors and the domestic and/or financial consequences that can result in legal action against the abuser are well known to both the perpetrator and the victim. In the case of gang related violence, organizations within the policing institution, such as the Green Team or MEGU (Metro Edmonton Gang Unit) are in place to deal with criminals who themselves are organized, sophisticated, and well versed in the legal system.

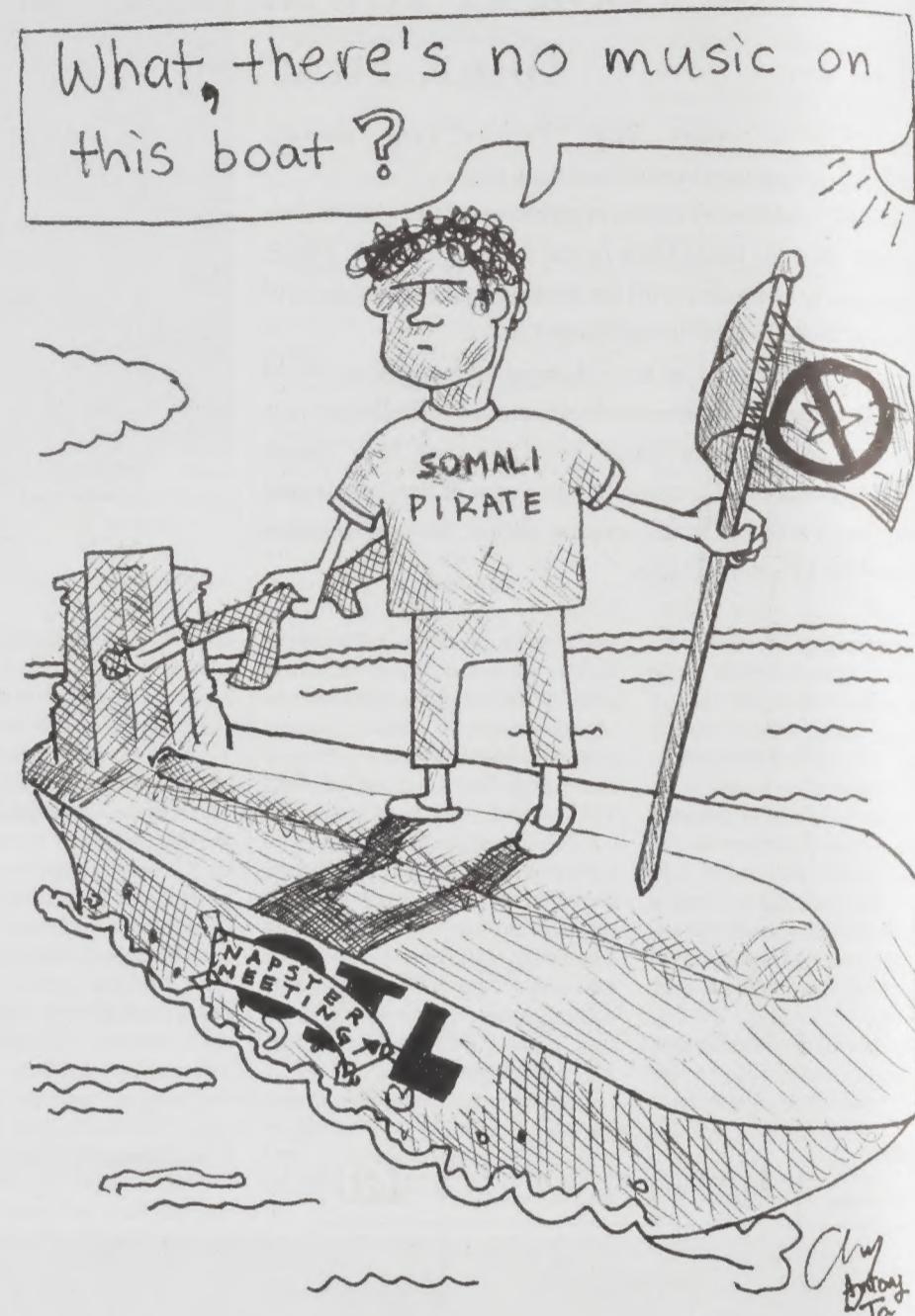
As I'm sure the author of the article is aware, sensationalism sells. Yet in the future, I hope articles in a university publication include insight on the core issues plaguing the criminal justice system instead of relying on student resentment of a jaywalking ticket or high profile stories such as the "hockey mask killer" to mould campus opinion on criminal justice issues.

IAN GAUTHIER  
Arts IV

### UASUS completely inept

UASUS wants "to find the most effective way to represent Science students"? Noble. But why does it have to come to the threat of dissolution for them to start cleaning up their act?

The woes surrounding their by-election are saddening, but what disappoints me the most is that the by-election was carried out by executive members who are in their second term. Did they not recognize that their infrastructure and policies were inadequate, work on creating institutional knowledge, or at least recognize the shadiness of their



### The U.N. Anti-Piracy Program

### Gateway "rex" their ad with poor dino grammar

by-election "procedure?" I wonder if they even take themselves seriously. Their by-election was like a game slapped together by kids on a playground—except huddled in the corner so no one would notice and pick on them. Too bad representing one of the U of A's largest faculties isn't child's play.

If they can't even figure out how to run an election according to the rules spelt out by the Students' Union, how can I trust them to understand the University rules and advocate on behalf of students to the Faculty? There are resources available to student groups, particularly Faculty Associations. I sense a lack of initiative to access this support for fear of someone asking them about the progress of their work. It's far simpler to gather everything under the sweeping banner of "a lot of positives."

Yeah, of course it's good that these guys stepped up to the plate to take on the daunting task of running a Faculty Association, but they should admit that their work has been lackluster. I am stunned that the UASUS executives still want to stay on board. When the Students' Union Vice President (Academic), whose portfolio includes supporting Faculty Associations, questions "the general effectiveness of [UASUS] as a faculty association," it's a sign—step aside.

CHRIS LE  
Science IV

Despite the fact that your Gateway advertisement on page 12 of the Thursday, 6 November issue appropriately credits the Tyrannosaurus with the grace, power, and fear this majestic animal ultimately deserves, you have fallen short.

The name Tyrannosaurus rex is correctly abbreviated to T rex—not T-rex. This is a common error but one that needs to be addressed, lest all of us fall victim to its laser-eyed attacks.

TRAVIS HNIDAN  
Engineering II

### Religious beefs: why can't we all just get along?

Unfortunately, I must admit I find myself shocked at the immaturity of these religious arguments. Mr Vafaei's response ("Vargas cherrypicks and distorts image of Islam," 13 November) is rather lacking in that it does nothing but trying to smear the entire Islamic religion based off the actions of a few. I find it disgusting how people write to the media with such horrendously slanderous material. Mind growing up a little?

There's something I was raised with called tolerance. Anti-theism is no better and no worse than Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, or whatever you believe in. You can't judge a

religion based on people because religion isn't tangible and humans are far from perfect. Let's look at it this way: when you smear what others believe, it makes it that much easier for someone else to come along and smear your beliefs.

I would also suggest Mr Vafaei follow his own advice and read some history so he can see that the criminal actions he places on Islam can be found in anti-theism, Christianity, or any other religion. It's called human nature, and it'll be around for a while.

So everyone, please, no more mud-smearing articles about beliefs because it's offensive, rude, and immature.

RILEY ANDERSON  
Science

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Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program year of study, and student identification number to be considered for publication.

# The politics of superhero justice

Why costumed vigilantes are lighthearted embodiments of libertarianism

CODY  
CIVIERO



**B**efore we could comprehend politics directly, we all idolized superheroes. Not only because of their badass costumes, gadgets, and powers, but due to their heroic exploits. And that value judgment is political in itself.

Comic books are, more often than not, heavy-handed depictions of libertarian ideals, and the widespread popularity of superheroes betrays more support for those politics than our system of representation would like to imply. If you've cheered for Spider-Man, Batman, or Iron Man, you've advocated that philosophy.

The need for vigilantes always stems from a system of government that is incompetent, corrupt, ineffectively bureaucratic, or otherwise incapable of solving problems through political coercion that private citizens can solve out of their own free will. The comic book state isn't even ambivalent; government authorities condemn and attempt to prosecute the altruistic acts of heroes while simultaneously failing to effectively deal with crime.

Superheroes use their powers only in a fashion parallel to a monarchistic

"night watchman state"—maintaining law and order, and defending the rights of moral agents so as to live unmolested—in contrast to their power-hungry authoritarian villain counterparts, hell-bent on world domination, sometimes justified by visions of their own personal utopia.

**The most valuable things that comic books teach, contrary to skewed public opinion, is that libertarianism and altruism are reconcilable.**

The untempered use of power is the trademark of the villains and authority. *X-Men: The Last Stand* is centered upon a contemptible "cure" for mutant superheroes that's sanctioned, implemented, and ultimately made mandatory by none other than the federal government. The negative light that the "treatment" is portrayed in not only serves to advocate social tolerance for those who are different, but also to accept that natural inequality in terms of skill and ability exists, and that one should not be ashamed of their talents (the very concept of "supermen" is in line with libertarian philosophy).

## Arts students need to stand up to inter-faculty bullying

LEAH  
TRUEBLOOD



I'm willing to bet that every single Arts student on this campus has, at some point in their degree, had to defend their choice to study arts—I know I have. This defence can come in the form of laughing off a "do you want fries with that?" joke or, more seriously, being asked to justify the usefulness of their entire faculty.

I'm certainly not opposed to friendly inter-faculty competition. What I do have a problem with is the suggestion that arts degrees are somehow second-class to those acquired in vocational faculties. I won't, as is conventionally done, implore you to consider that Arts students do indeed get great jobs, or that the arts are valuable as ends in themselves. These arguments are important, but not as important as arts students deciding that no one is going to tell them what they're worth, and doing something about the lack of respect for their pursuits.

It's the responsibility of Arts students to change the conversation—to defend the disciplines and the arts that they love. Nothing will ever come about while we keep to ourselves on the east side of campus wondering why people make fun of us. For the era of "do you want fries with that?" to end, Arts students require recognition from all of their communities. But the bottom line is this: the status quo isn't

acceptable, and the change starts with Arts students saying so.

If students were to start to say "no" every time someone suggested that students choose Arts because "Science is too hard," or "they want to get into law school" the conversation would start to change. If students responded with the real reasons they study the arts, people would sit up and take notice. Students study arts because the world is a complicated place. Because history repeats itself, language makes a difference, authority should be challenged, and laws can be changed. Students study arts because they want to change the world and be better people; and there's nothing more powerful than that.

**For the era of "do you want fries with that?" jokes to end, Arts students require recognition from all of their communities.**

So I implore you, Arts students, the next time you tell someone you study Arts and they respond, "what are you going to do with that?" please don't shrug it off or, worse, agree. Give them your reasons if you feel so inclined, but saying "no" is enough. The material point is that there are compelling reasons to study the arts, but even so, Arts students don't need to justify themselves in the face of "arts because ..." jokes. We don't need others to tell us that our disciplines have value, and we know the truth of the matter on this one.

Social and economic freedom, rolled into one tightly constructed message.

But this is only a small sampling of the political implications of these characters: their justice is retributive and deterrence-based rather than rehabilitative, and many immensely popular comic book protagonists, such as Bruce Wayne and Tony Stark, have been insanely wealthy entrepreneurs. The cinematic embodiment of Tony Stark even abandons the weapons industry—the bulk of profits coming from (note the pattern) government contracts—out of moral principle. Self-regulation leads him to an ethical choice that was actively at odds with the policy of the state.

The most valuable things that comic books teach, contrary to skewed public opinion, is that libertarianism and altruism are reconcilable. The protagonists perform praiseworthy actions not because they are coerced into doing them, but because they're the right things to do. Public good can arise from concerned citizens and doesn't require duress.

I find all of this fascinating, because—as years of consistent box office numbers can attest to—superheroes have an incredibly broad appeal, and their actions seem intrinsically moral to the bulk of people of all ages, races, income levels, and political persuasions. More often than not, it takes artistic license and hyperbole to uncover truths about the real world.

### THE BURLAP SACK

As we all know from our first-grade educations, November means winter and winter means snow—supposedly. Unfortunately, recent factions designed to increase worldwide temperatures (global warming, ozone depletion, Jennifer Aniston) have conspired to raise Canada's temperatures to the point where the only snow you can find is in the lining of the meat freezer at your local Burger King.

And that's fine; I can live with the absence of one of our nation's proud trademarks. What really irritates me is our recent weather patterns where the snow can't make up its mind to fall or not and ends up coming down overnight in a pathetic sixteenth-of-an-inch covering that exists just long enough to cause an average of nine traffic accidents before vanishing into the ether from whence it came.

Make up your mind, winter! Be a raging blizzard or a sunny day, but don't waffle on the decision into a half-hearted snowfall that's no good for anything or anyone. I can't stand this kind of indecision from our precipitation system any more than I can from our municipal government. And right now, their demeanor is even icier than yours.

So into the Sack with you, snow. Since you'll barely cover the bottom of the bag, I'll have no choice but cram enough in until you reach a more tolerable depth. And no coming out until you work out your issues and agree to fall in a more traditional manner.

DAVID JOHNSTON

*The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.*

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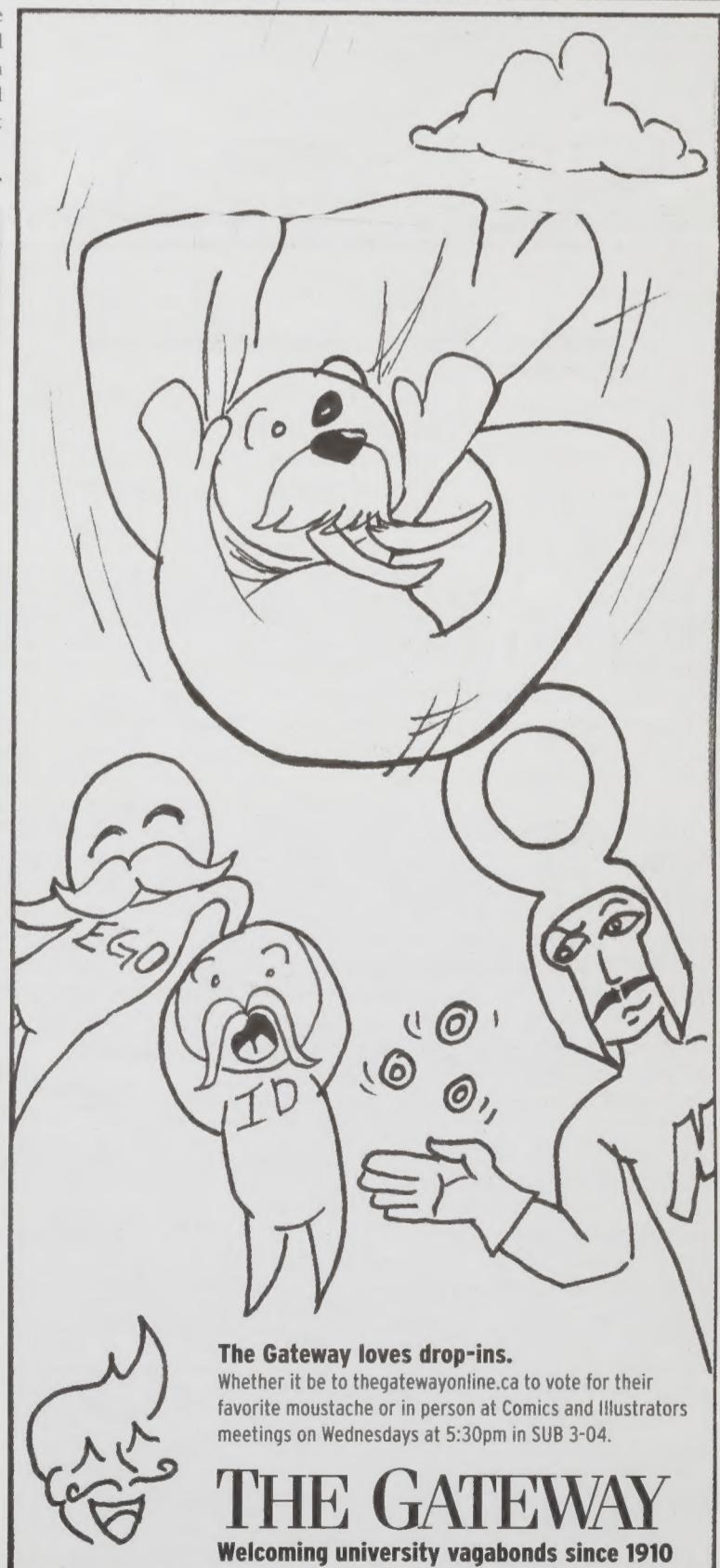
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## GATEWAY OPINION

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The position requires ten hours per week (less if you're speedy), runs until 30 April, 2009, and pays \$341.51 per month. We are seeking to fill this position immediately, and will close the position as soon as we find an acceptable candidate.

For further information or to apply, contact

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biz@gateway.ualberta.ca

# Self-righteous yuppies show that organic food isn't totally pest free

CONAL PIERSE



For a number of years now, we as a society have increasingly become a bunch of pansies. With the advent of the Internet and mass media spreading fear like wildfire, we've become increasingly scared of our inevitable mortality to the point where we're very near considering banning corners because of the risk they pose.

One of the worst culprits of late is this trend towards healthy eating by way of so-called "organic" foods. From the high-nosed snobbish attitude of its proponents to the inflated cost for an inferior product, these spotty, misshapen foods are the biggest load of bullshit that we've swallowed en masse in recent memory.

It started several years ago in upscale yuppie food markets that sell single strawberries at prices on par with gold and soon spread to the rest of the market like a cancer. Now you can't walk into a grocery store without being assaulted with signs claiming that one product is somehow more organic than the rest, and thus, better for you. Now, to my understanding, unless these other apples I'm trying are made of plastic—a mistake I've made before as a child—I don't see how they fail to meet this "organic" criteria.

By definition, all the food we buy is "organic," and suggesting that a small plastic sticker somehow makes one carrot more earthy and rich than another is silly nit-picking. They're both grown in the dirt with the help of sunlight and oxygen, and no amount of wishful thinking or new age buzz words is going to change that.

**Now, to my understanding, unless these other apples I'm trying are made of plastic—a mistake I've made before as a child—I don't see how they fail to meet this "organic" criteria.**

Of course, when you cynically mention this, you're bound to have an onlooker grab you and burst into a tirade on how organic foods will save your life like some kind of produce evangelical. The way good old-fashioned chemical coated food is described, you'd damn near think that your insides will turn to stone after ingesting them. These beliefs are ludicrous, and I have the supple mids to prove it.

Farmers have been using pesticides on crops for centuries, and preservatives have been in use for a fair number of years as well. And those currently utilized are much less

hazardous, both environmentally and physically, than older methods such as DDT. Yet, despite this flagrant use of deadly poisons, we have continued to survive and thrive as a species, and have managed to avoid embalming ourselves by way of salad.

The sale of organic foods is in no way the "healthier choice," and these beliefs are perpetuated by ignorance and fear. Worse still are the unfounded attacks against genetically modified foods, or GMOs. The name now brings to mind images of mad scientists in lab coats laughing maniacally as they combine beakers of bubbling liquids to create a monstrous tomato capable of leveling cities. Just one bite, and the hapless consumer is reduced to a quivering pile of ketchup (or catsup, depending on what genes were substituted).

But what those who attack GMOs fail to realize is that all food we eat is genetically modified in some way or another. Perhaps not at the test tube level, but when a farmer takes his best plants and crossbreeds them to yield heartier offspring, he's playing God. How dare he force his crops into unnatural, and dare I say incestuous, relations instead of allowing simple wind and insects to carry out the pollination ritual as nature intended.

So scoff all you want, and by all means, continue to overpay for an inferior product. But while you eat your bruised, overpriced, conspicuously orange Red Delicious, I'll enjoy my nicely polished wax-coated ones, with the quiet satisfaction that I'm not allowing my choice in foodstuffs to label me as a pretentious ass.

## Vitamin Water makes me aquaphobic

GARY ALLEN



"I'm sorry, but isn't flavoured, sweetened water just juice? Or at the very least 'drink?' I guess 'vitamin drink' doesn't have quite the same ring to it, but calling something 'water' when it's sweetened and flavoured is just plain wrong. If water has a taste or colour, there's probably something wrong with it."

Over the summer, you may have noticed a new bottled beverage appearing in the hands of countless celebrities and at every event and store across Edmonton—and if you'd travelled further afield, all over North America. Vitamin water seemed to explode into the public consciousness this year, with branded fridges in seemingly every convenience store and promo tents at every festival. Taking a page from the George Orwell book of marketing, "who controls the past controls the future: who controls the present controls the past," all of a sudden it was as though Vitamin Water had always been around and must surely be delicious, nutritious, and what all the cool kids are drinking.

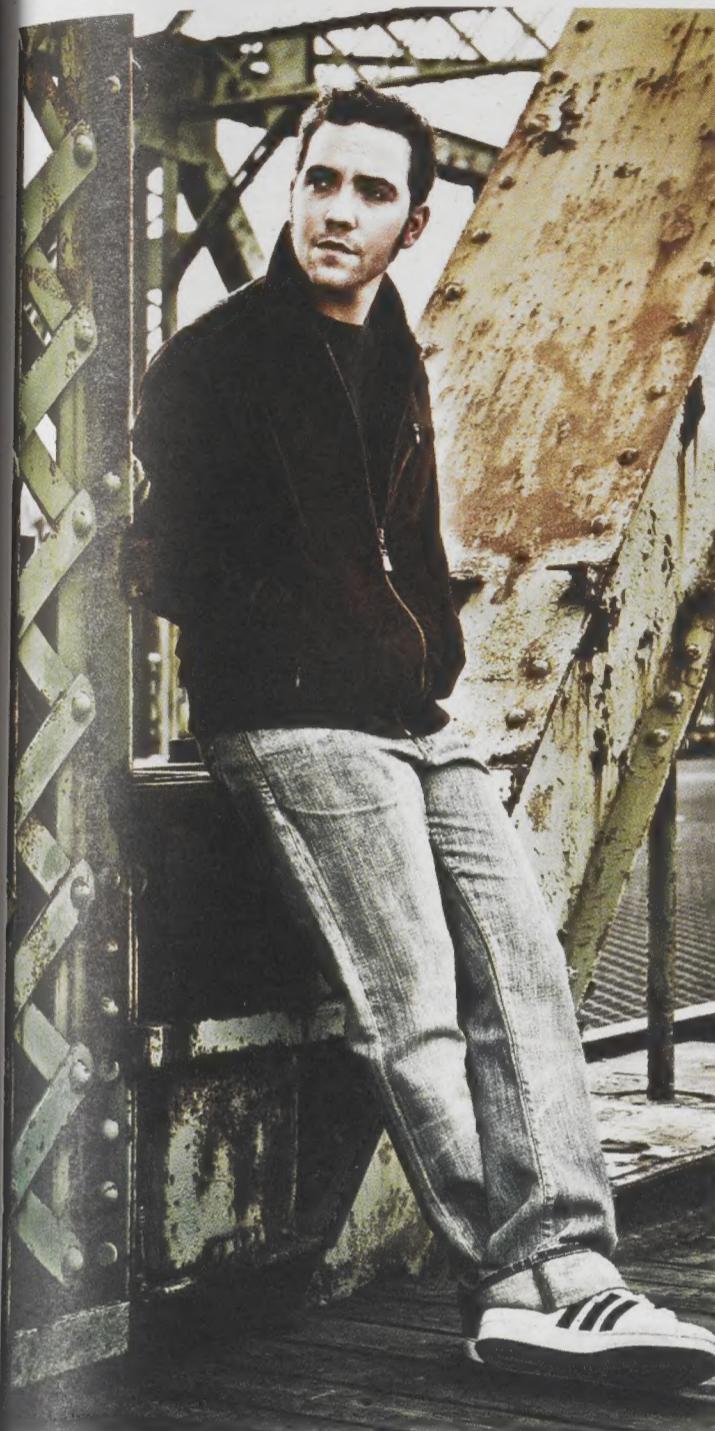
Initially, I was won over by this full-scale assault on my senses: between its ubiquity, fanciful assortment of flavours, and simple black and white bottles, I couldn't get enough. Then one random day after seeing a few too many Vitamin Water fridges, I started to worry that I'd too quickly jumped into bed with a product that I hadn't really thought enough about. This quickly snowballed into outrage that I'd been complicit in the integration of another unnecessary product into my everyday life.

Vitamin Water started with a small

concentrated flavours and crystalline fructose which nutrition experts have warned may be toxic.

Vitamin Water is actually, on closer inspection, a perfect example of our ability to completely artificialize something—even in an age when consumers are supposedly looking for more natural solutions and products. Instead of drinking fresh natural juice or simply eating a piece of fruit, the Coca-Cola company handily combines concentrated flavours and sweetener syrup (derived from corn) with water that has had all of its natural mineral content purified out, then re-introduces vitamins that are naturally present in fresh juices but are removed in the manufacturing process of many food and drink products, like Vitamin Water.

Perhaps what is most irksome isn't Vitamin Water itself, but what it represents. Even in a time when we claim to be looking for healthier, natural options, consumers flock to products like Vitamin Water that have the matte-effect finish of an earthy natural health product. Like a cow in tofurkey's clothing, products like Vitamin Water distract us with their pervasiveness and reassuring message, but that doesn't necessarily mean that we should be drinking them.



# Creating the reading rainbow

Justin Rutledge's passion is helping others to be able to curl up with a good book

## musicpreview

### Justin Rutledge

With Jenn Grant  
Saturday, 22 November at 7pm  
U of A Convocation Hall (3-82 Old Arts Building)  
\$17.50 at ticketmaster.ca

SEAN STEELS  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

In a media landscape where a passionately wrought television ad is often the last line of defence against social ills like poverty and illiteracy, Justin Rutledge's willingness to get his hands dirty and help others with his time, not his wallet, is a pleasant rarity.

The Canadian songwriter recently completed training to volunteer with a Toronto-based adult literacy program where he'll work directly with adults who struggle with their reading.

"Reading should be a right, not a privilege," Rutledge professes with passionate enthusiasm. "Whether it be reading a great novel or reading something to your children while they're going to bed, it's a very human activity. I don't know if my background in any kind of academic area gives me a different perspective, but I do think about how difficult my life would be if I couldn't read or write."

As a volunteer, he'll provide support and guidance to illiterate adults, as well as help them set personal goals and cope with the stresses of being

excluded from seemingly everyday tasks like reading mail and understanding signs.

Rutledge is no scholastic rookie himself and harbours a deep passion for the written word. When he released his first album *No Never Alone* in 2005, he was in the third year of his degree in English Literature at the University of Toronto, a degree he intends to complete when he gets the chance. His newest album, *Man Descending* is named after a Guy Vanderhaeghe collection of short stories, and he also just completed an interview for Dolly Parton's film, *The Book Lady*, a documentary on her involvement with adult literacy programs.

**"Reading should be a right, not a privilege. Whether it be reading a great novel or reading something to your children while they're going to bed, it's a very human activity."**

JUSTIN RUTLEDGE

With such a laundry list of personal literary investments, it's far from surprising that the line between his book work and musical endeavors has begun to blur. Beside his fall tour, he recently began working on a theatre project with celebrated Canadian author Michael Ondaatje, of whom

he's an admitted fan.

"I'm writing songs based on one of the characters in his most recent novel *Visidero*," he says after a moment of hesitation. The project, which will feature new music from Rutledge as well as songs off his previous albums, is still in its infancy, prompting him to tread lightly when discussing its details.

"I'm trying to get into this character, which is interesting, but he doesn't say a lot; he's a very quiet, silent persona. It's been interesting getting into a role and writing with him constantly in mind as opposed to writing from a personal perspective, which is what I've always done, even though I try to create a fictitious environment in my own songs."

Admittedly, having Ondaatje present to provide pointers over coffee eased his stress of the project, but the experience, along with his addition to this year's Polaris Music Prize long list, has helped assuage the more self-deprecating aspects of Rutledge's sense of humour.

"I'm not a very competent guitar player or instrumentalist, I guess. I'm just always trying to focus on bettering myself as a rhythm player or as a 'band leader.' I'm constantly second-guessing myself and things like that let me know that what I'm doing is worth something," he laughs with the audible equivalent of a shrug.

"I guess you can never know if what you're doing is worth anything or not. I'm getting to the stage where I can second-guess myself a little less, but in music, it's pretty much impossible to retain any sense of objectivity, or subjectivity, or both."

# U of A alumnus reflects on Native culture in *Three Little Birds*

## theatrepreview

### Three Little Birds

Directed by Vinetta Strombergs  
Written by Kenneth T Williams  
Starring Tantoo Cardinal, Clifford Cardinal, and Michaela Washburn  
20-30 November at 7:30pm, with Sunday 2pm matinees  
Catalyst Theatre (8529 Gateway Boulevard)  
\$19 for students at [tixonthesquare.ca](http://tixonthesquare.ca)

BEN DEXRAZE  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Kenneth T Williams wants you to laugh at those oversimplified labels called "stereotypes." The Saskatchewan-born aboriginal playwright set out to achieve that with his new play, *Three Little Birds*, and hopes it will echo a reality he already knows.

"What I wanted to reflect with this play are the stereotypes that are placed on Native culture," Williams explains. "Our culture is perceived as being very dour, so we're constantly negative and we're constantly depressed or angry—but we're not. We're actually quite funny; we actually have a great sense of humor and we love to laugh. I hope this comes across in *Three Little Birds* and that people can see it. Even in the most tragic of situations—when it's appropriate—we'll say something funny."

Williams' new work traps a mother and daughter in a sobering situation, but takes a sudden turn when a baby enters their lives from an unlikely source.

"It's about family, but it's also about living your dream and following your heart," Williams says. "The main character Anne has terminal cancer and decides that it's now or never. Anne decides she doesn't want to go through chemotherapy again and instead goes home. However, she doesn't tell her daughter what she's doing and while she's at home, a young man breaks into her house while she's there—but he's carrying a baby in his arms."

This twist in the plot allows the play to adopt its lighter tone. Williams believes the dynamic of the production rests in how we view what is right and wrong, and how making the right choice could be more detrimental than making the wrong choice.

[Anne's] grandmotherly skills—or kookum as you call them in Cree—instantly come into play," Williams continues. "She's very angry and upset with the boy for breaking in, but she is instantly concerned that there's a baby involved. She feels that it might be worse to call in the authorities."

Williams got his start in writing at the U of A where he stumbled into a class that would direct his future somewhere he never thought of going. After deciding at an early age that he wanted to be a writer, he had a couple "false starts" with creative



writing in the English Department before he walked into a Drama class that would change his life. Some years later, Williams found himself in the U of A's MFA playwriting program experimenting with different ways of writing plays and new ways of thinking about theatre.

"I got my Masters of Fine Arts in playwriting from the University of Alberta in 1992," Williams says. "In university I wrote some pretty experimental stuff, and although I was in the

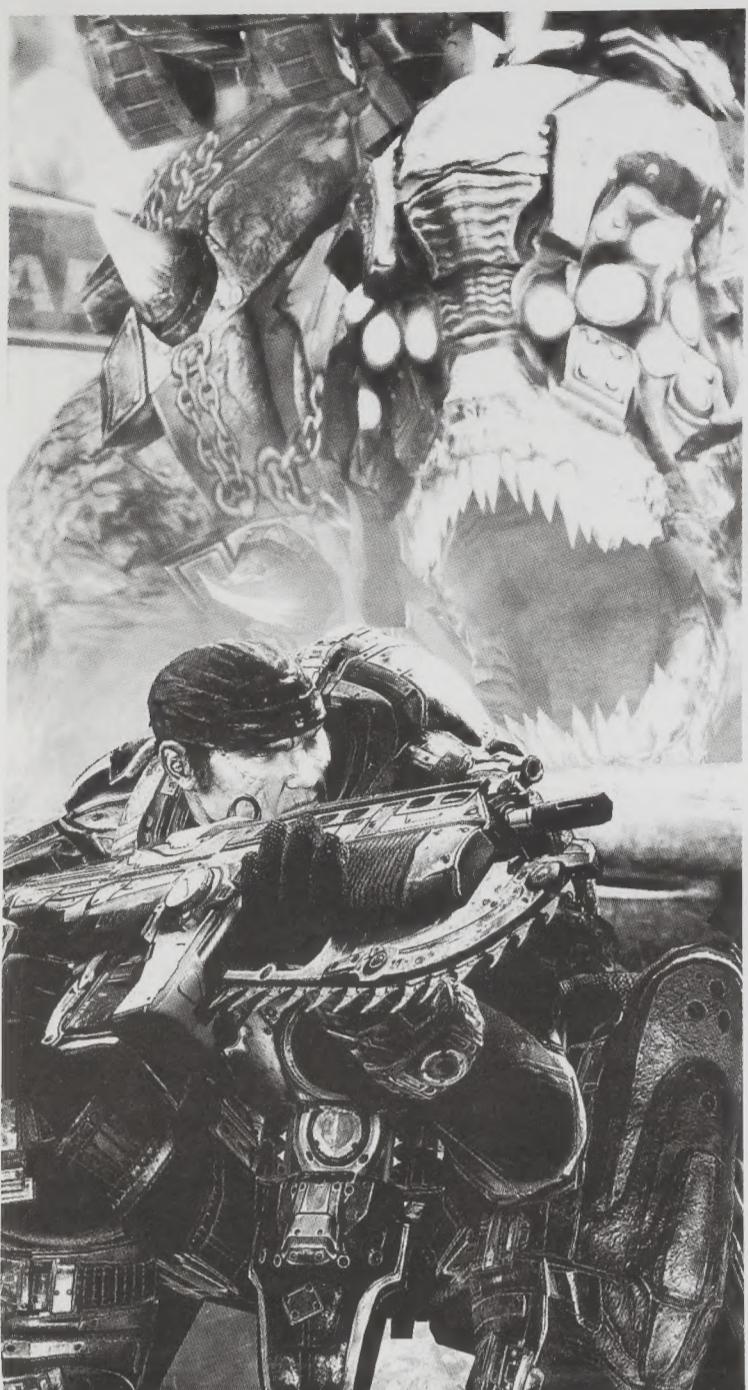
Masters Program, I was still quite new to it.

"The thing about the U of A is that they have a kick-ass Drama program and you see some really cool theatre done all out, with no limits," he continues. "Everyone there was combining academics with dramatic history and trying everything that got in our darn way. I was all over the place. I was trying all sorts of different styles, genres, and themes, and I took advantage of it. In university you can do

things like that, and you're expected to explore, create, and go a little wild to push the limits."

Williams will attempt this very ideal with *Three Little Birds* as he tackles the genre of tragicomedy while pushing aside stereotypes with true aboriginal humor; he hopes to capture its audience with the jokes and keep them engaged with the drama.

"What I do when I write is try to find the most dramatic things possible, then crank it up a notch."



# Meet the new Gears, same as the old Gears

Other than a few updates, Gears 2 provides the same experience as the original

## filmreview

### Gears of War 2

Published by Microsoft  
Developed by Epic Games  
Now available on Xbox 360

CONAL PIERSE  
Managing Editor

Your decision to purchase Gears of War 2 should be based on two things: whether or not you enjoyed the first Gears of War, and if you have friends who will buy and play this game. If the answer to both of those questions wasn't a resounding "yes," then you're better off saving your money.

Gears 2 is essentially a graphics update to the first game with a few minor gameplay additions—most of which seem to be taken directly from other popular games of recent years. And while the new heavy weapons like the mortar gun are certainly fun, they still seem more like gimmicks, and the addition of new (or at the very least, versatile) weapons is surprisingly absent.

That being said, the new ability to plant grenades as booby-traps is a very welcome addition, and brings back fond memories of proximity mines in *GoldenEye*. And while it tends to exacerbate the "dig in and wait" mentality that turns multiplayer into a war of attrition, the satisfaction you feel when your traps work is well worth it.

The campaign mode for Gears 2 attempts to up the ante considerably from the original. Instead of being an elite unit behind enemy lines, you are

now initially part of an all-out war. But unfortunately, the excitement of being involved in a larger scale conflict quickly fades, as it becomes apparent that Epic has no intention of delivering anything but the same, tired old "one man army" cliché.

The first several hours of the campaign are certainly enjoyable—though co-op is highly recommended so that you have someone to yell at when you die repeatedly. However, after about the seven-hour mark, the game begins to employ multiple frustrating and useless vehicle segments that seem to serve no purpose other than to drag the campaign on for another few hours.

**Gears 2 is essentially a graphics update to the first game with a few minor gameplay additions.**

The final boss fight employs Mario-like battle mechanics, whereby you simply have to dodge falling objects from an invulnerable monster for a few minutes until it eventually decides to let you hit it. Worse still is the follow-up 20 minute rail-shooter segment that seems to be the industry standard tagged-on ending for a game they didn't have time to finish—though, for some reason, Gears 2 uses this to segue into another three more arduous hours of gameplay and an ultimately disappointing conclusion.

However, like the first, Gears 2

is primarily a multiplayer game—though the horrible matchmaking system may lead you to think otherwise. Whereas the first Gears made it impossible to play with your friends on a team, this one simply makes it impossible to play, period. Sure, they've allowed you to form a squad of buddies before entering matchmaking to give you the illusion that you'll be playing together. But after an average of 7 minutes wait time before you can actually join a game, you're better off either switching to horde mode, or indeed, another game.

If you're lucky enough to have four other people willing to play with you, horde mode is unquestionably the way to go. Here, you play as a team, struggling to survive against an onslaught of AI monsters who come in increasingly more difficult waves. And though the 50 waves are truly a repeated cycle of a basic 10, I can guarantee that every time the dinosaur riders appear, you and everyone else you're with will start screaming about laying down fire and holding position—amidst the obligatory strings of profanity, of course.

Were it not for the difficulty in joining games, Gears of War 2 would be a worthwhile purchase based on multiplayer alone. However, the crippling flaws in the matchmaking system combined with a lacklustre campaign should have you strongly questioning whether enough of your friends will pick this one up. While it's certainly fun, if you lack four other people to matchmake with regularly, you might as well just buy what your buddies are playing instead, because Gears 2 doesn't cater to loners.



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### Graduate Studies Information Session Wednesday, November 19th

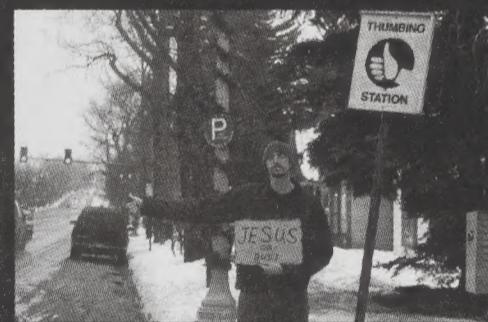
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

2nd Floor, Agriculture-Forestry Centre  
University of Alberta

Contact Robin at 780-492-0271 or [robin.mccllland@ualberta.ca](mailto:robin.mccllland@ualberta.ca) for further info.  
Map and parking details can be emailed to you.

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# CONTEST!



Fringe Theatre Adventures is putting on a double theatre feature at the TransAlta Art Barns next week and the Gateway wants to send you! First up is **Dishpig**, a play about the hardships of working as a restaurant dishwasher starring Fringe regulars Greg Landucci and TJ Dawe. Secondly, there's **Jesus in Montana**, a monologue by comedian Barry Smith about his bizarre journey into the heart of a religious cult.

The Gateway is giving away two pairs of tickets which get you into both shows for their opening night, next Thursday, November 20. To enter, write down your worst or strangest restaurant story—either as a worker or as a customer—and send it to [contests@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:contests@gateway.ualberta.ca) along with your name, email address and phone number. The deadline for submissions will be Tuesday, November 18th at midnight. The stories will be judged based on clarity, merit of story, hilarity and/or weirdness, and the winners will be contacted on Wednesday the 19th. Only one submission per person.

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# Bond flick action-packed with only a quantum of story

## filmreview

### Quantum of Solace

Directed by Marc Forster  
Starring Daniel Craig, Olga Kurylenko,  
Mathieu Almalric, and Judi Dench  
Now Playing

JOHN KMECH  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The latest James Bond flick's release poses a couple questions to any discerning viewer.

First of all, for you physics majors, how exactly does one quantify "solace?" While the odd title choice makes sense after viewing the film, it still boggles the mind why they didn't go with my initial, equally appropriate suggestions of *Modicum of Consolation*, *Iota of Pity*, or *Smidgen of Condolences*.

Secondly, how do you follow up *Casino Royale*, a Bond film considered the saviour of the franchise that is now not only seen as one of the best Bonds of the last several years, but one of the best Bonds ever? Answer: borrow liberally from it and avoid making your own standalone film, which is exactly what director Marc Forster accomplishes with *Quantum of Solace*, a Bond entry that is plenty shaken, if not entirely stirring.

Daniel Craig returns as the most brooding version of the legendary secret agent man ever. A cold and efficient spy who teeters between being England's finest and acting as an uncontrollable rogue force who'll finish a job the way he sees fit. After



the death of Vesper Lynd, Bond's treasonous lover from *Casino Royale*, he discovers that the organization responsible is considerably more powerful than previously realized.

The man at the helm of this shadowy establishment turns out to be Dominic Greene (played by Mathieu Almalric, of *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* fame), who is just greasy and European enough to evoke Bond's ire.

Attempting to control access to natural resources, Greene strikes up a deal with a Bolivian general aiming to overthrow his country's government. Bond must investigate these shady

dealings while eluding both Greene's clandestine organization as well as MI6, without letting the operation get personal—a problem that both Bond and the film as a whole suffer from.

The emotional depth and complex character development that made *Casino Royale* work so brilliantly are sorely lacking in *Quantum*, replaced by hyperkinetic, Bourne-like action sequences that live up to their predecessor in terms of scale, but feel disappointingly hollow thanks to the lack of substance surrounding them.

While this keeps the film moving at a frantic pace, it also makes any discussions feel more transitory and less

meaningful. After any conversation has started in the film, you can be certain that in only several minutes, Bond will have moved on to chasing and decimating multiple opponents. The film even falls into espionage clichés at one point when Bond, entering a silent apartment and treading lightly, is abruptly attacked by a knife-wielding assassin through a pane of glass.

As well, Greene doesn't provide nearly the same type of epic archnemesis as Mads Mikkelsen's Le Chiffre.

This isn't to say that *Quantum of Solace* is a poor entry into the Bond franchise; it's still a cut above 95 per cent of action movies these days. But

it suffers from sequelitis, which Bond movies have avoided until now by providing standalone plots, as derivative as they may be. It'd be tough to enjoy *Quantum* without having seen *Casino Royale*, and the film's reliance on its superior predecessor to drive its occasionally confusing storyline makes it feel like *Casino Royale* 1.5.

*Quantum* will provide enough solace to soothe fans eagerly anticipating a new Bond, but it's really just an add-on, an adequate but immemorable companion piece that never really sets out on its own and will undoubtedly be eclipsed by its inevitable descendant.



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# SPORTS

sports@gateway.ualberta.ca • tuesday, 18 november, 2008

## Bears string points together, split with Huskies

Alberta hits their stride offensively, racking up season-high point totals despite inconsistent defensive efforts against Saskatchewan

NICK FROST  
Sports Editor

The Golden Bears basketball team came into their weekend against the Saskatchewan Huskies with a purpose: to increase their offensive output from an average 61 points. While they did manage to surpass that number in both games, Alberta's men still came out of their set with a split, picking up a 77-73 victory on Friday night, followed by an 89-73 loss the following night.

Game one of the weekend doubleheader saw the Bears play some of their best ball all season, dropping over 20 points in three of four quarters and shooting an even 50 per cent up until the final whistle—an effort lead by fourth-year guard CG Morrison, who tallied 26 points. Head coach Don Horwood was pleased with the effort, but thought that his team still could've stood to take more shots.

"We've changed some things and gone back to our old style," Horwood noted. "I thought we had more open shots than we even took tonight, and I spoke to CG at halftime and said, 'you have to start shooting the ball more; you're open and you're second-guessing yourself.' We need to just shoot the shot and, of course, [Morrison] played well in the second half."

What Horwood was even more impressed with on Friday night, however, was the effort of his defence, which managed to keep pace off the boards with a much bigger Huskies squad. The Bears managed only five less offensive rebounds, while matching the 23 defensive rebounds gobbled up Saskatchewan.

"What I'm enjoying more than anything right now is the way we're battling on defence—defensively, tonight, I thought worked really hard,"

Horwood said. "We gave up a few offensive boards that allowed them to stay in the game, but we're not a big team, so that's going to happen."

Saturday night's battle saw an improved Bears offence continue to shine with another 70-plus point effort; defensively, however, the team didn't uphold the effort given the previous night. Alberta was dominated in the paint, getting out-rebounded on the offensive end 24-10, which lead to a number of easy put-backs that helped put the Huskies ahead for good.

"Tonight, they came out and wanted it more than us, and that's what it came down to. They out-rebounded us and out-hustled us," Bears guard CG Morrison said without hesitation on Saturday night.

"I thought they outworked us—they're bigger and stronger and I think they had something like 24 offensive boards," Horwood added. "We just couldn't compete on the boards with them—I thought we battled alright and I wasn't completely disappointed with the way we played. But if you're getting offensive boards, those are put-back layups and that works out to about 28 points."

For Saskatchewan, earning the split allows them to keep pace in a tight race—along with Alberta and Lethbridge (3-5)—for second in the Central Division of the Canada West Conference.

"The split was huge—this was a must-win for us tonight," Huskies head coach Greg Jockims said after Saturday night's win. "We struggled early in the season like Alberta has, and I think both teams will get better as the year goes on. But these divisional games where we're going to be battling closely playoffs and first, second, or third in our division are huge—if we had gotten two games down this early in the season, it would be difficult for us to come back."



CATCH WITH YOUR HANDS, MAN Bears forward Neb Aleksic tries to fend off two Huskie players

PETEY

## Saskatchewan guard Glover ready for showtime

NICK FROST  
Sports Editor

As he takes to the court before the start of the game, you can instantly sense a different vibe about Saskatchewan Huskies guard Showron Glover. Sporting cornrows and a multitude of sweatbands like his pro-basketball idol Allen Iverson, he immediately stands out from the typical, buttoned-down mold of a CIS ball player—then he proceeds to cross his opponents up with a little bit of flash and fearlessly drive to the hoop, hungry for offence. And in his first year in Saskatoon, the man his teammates call "Show"—much like the man he looks up to—has been the answer for the Huskies.

Hailing from Fresno, California, the 21-year-old guard—who finished with 21 and 27 points on Friday and Saturday night respectively against the Golden Bears—is still getting accustomed to being in a different climate, different country, and new team atmosphere, but seems to be familiarizing himself rather quickly.

"It's been cold, no doubt—California is definitely much warmer," Glover joked. "Right now, everybody's been telling me that in November, we've been lucky with the weather. Just last week, it was icy, and I was walking, and I slipped and fell. I had somebody laughing and I was like, 'hey, it's my first time; I don't got my snow feet yet.'

After being discovered by Huskies scouting through what Glover simply described as "people knowing people, who know other people," head coach Greg Jockims and his staff hoped to implement the young, dynamic scorer into their system as soon as possible. While Jockims is quick to point out that Glover's raw talent does still need to be fully adapted to their gameplan, he's still has confidence in the potential that his young guard possesses.

"He comes from a long way away being from the United States, not really knowing any of our guys," Jockims said. "But we gave him the starting role because of all the graduations we had last year and he's adjusted very well—he's still learning our system, and just trying to figure out what we want him to do."

"One thing we want him to do while growing into that role is be aggressive. When he's aggressive like [Saturday night], he leads the team and gets everyone else going."

With Saskatchewan undergoing a major turnover in the past year—most notably, with the loss of veteran forward and Canada-West all-time leading scorer Andrew Spagrud—the team was in need of not only some much needed offence, but also a new team leader. Glover has since become one of the team's go-to guys and has flourished in the role, leading the Huskies with 22.8 points per game coming out of their weekend split

against Alberta.

"Showron, certainly at times [Saturday night], was able to carry the load for us and produce just like Andrew used to do," Jockims noted. "I think the big adjustment for our team is that Andrew was a big forward and all the stuff we used to run involved getting him the ball down low. We're still trying to adjust some of our systems to accommodate a point guard as the primary scorer in our system, it's not always easy to do."

For years, people largely identified with Spagrud as being the face of the Saskatchewan Huskies. Despite being a completely different type of player, Glover seems well-poised to only etch out a spot amongst the CIS best, but eventually, in his own way, become the face of a new generation for the Saskatchewan Huskies.

"Well with that, first of all, I'm a big man and I'm a guard," Glover explained. "He did his thing and right now, I'm trying to do my thing and that's basically it. I'm trying to make a name for myself and get the fans from my town Saskatoon to come out and watch me play and watch our team play—to put on a show, you know? That's my nickname—'Show.'"

"So, that's my thing right now—at the end, I'll get the opportunity to be highly-known like Spagrud; it'll come soon. But, right now, I'm just hungry right now for another win."



READY FOR TAKEOFF Glover is becoming the leader of a new Huskies squad.

JUSTIN GRYBA, THE SHEAF



**AGGRESSIVE PURSUIT** Alberta's Ashley Wigg (7) scored 16 points in the second half on Saturday to revive her team.



## Late charges from Pandas not enough against B-Ball Huskies

NICK FROST  
Sports Editor

On a weekend that saw the best and worst sides of the Pandas basketball team (3-3), the wildly inconsistent effort proved costly as they dropped their weekend set against the Saskatchewan Huskies (4-2), losing 56-49 on Friday and 60-58 on Saturday.

Friday night's tilt was a close affair, marred only by the Pandas lacklustre start to both halves and what head coach Scott Edwards described as his players' frustration at not "giving themselves an opportunity to really get a proper shot off." However, Saturday night proved to be the most dichotomous for Alberta, as the Pandas took charge with 11 points in the first five minutes, only to be kept off the scoreboard completely in the second quarter.

"I've never seen a team anywhere get shut out in a quarter. But, yeah, it was crazy—I think both teams were scoreless for six or seven minutes there," Huskies head coach Lisa Thomaidis said after Saturday's match.

With Saskatchewan only mustering nine points of their own in the quarter, the Pandas found a much-needed break, but only netted a measly 21.2 field-goal percentage in the half. Edwards made his frustrations known

to his team to try and jumpstart them going into the second-half.

"Actually, I probably wouldn't repeat what I said to them at the half—it wasn't pleasant and it wasn't polite," Edwards said. "They're choosing to play a certain way that isn't how they've been taught, and it was really disappointing to watch them play that second quarter, offensively, with no thought-process of how they were going to score or any aggressiveness."

It would seem as though Edwards' speech worked on the team, as Alberta came out fired up in the latter half. Shooting nearly 30 per cent higher than the previous two quarters, the Pandas managed to erase a 15-point deficit. However, it was all for naught, as Huskies guard Amy Prokop nailed a jumper with four seconds remaining to stop the comeback dead in its tracks.

"To go from scoring zero points in the second quarter to having a finish like that—coming back from down 16 points with four minutes to go to give yourself a chance to win—yeah, it was a pretty wild game," Edwards noted. "But, we didn't deserve to win the ball game and the better team tonight won."

The Pandas charge was due largely to the play of fifth-year Ashley Wigg, who began playing more like a woman

possessed in the second half. After putting up only two points in the first half, Wigg came back strong with 16 points, including the game-tying three-ball with just nine seconds left.

"Yeah, I don't know, I was just finishing a lot better than I usually do," Wigg said. "I wasn't thinking about much, I was just going—no time to stop and think. In the first half, I was definitely thinking too much and focusing on my ridiculous misses."

Despite the loss, Edwards had nothing but praise for his veteran guard, whose play brought back memories for some at the Main Gym of an old familiar face for the Golden Bears who put up similar efforts late in games.

"She's a dynamic player and a very aggressive kid, and—depending on the style of play on any particular night—she can be dominant in getting to the paint," Edwards noted. "But she's a wily old veteran now—which is surprising to say—and she's learned a lot, probably from watching Alex Steele the last couple of years."

"He was her favourite player and she talked a lot about how tough he was getting to the rim in the last couple minutes of a game—being aggressive and getting to the free-throw line. When we're playing well, she's doing that for us."

from Saskatoon this weekend with a well-earned four points from a sweep of the Saskatchewan Huskies (6-5-1). Alberta goalie Dana Vinge stopped all 24 shots she faced on Friday night for her third shutout of the season and Nicole Pratt scored the only goal in a 1-0 Pandas victory.

On Saturday afternoon, Jen Newton, Andrea Boras, Sarah Hilworth, Jennifer Jubb, Miranda Miller, and Alana Cabana all found the back of the net for Alberta giving them a 6-2 win. Alberta's next action will be at Clare Drake this weekend against the UBC Thunderbirds.

### Golden Bears Volleyball

The Volley-Bears played two very different matches this weekend in Kamloops against Thompson Rivers, but the result in both was the same, as Alberta (6-0) secured two wins over the Wolfpack (3-3).

The two squads alternated sets in Friday night's contest with the Bears squeaking out a narrow 3-2 victory on the back of 37 team digs, an astounding 58 assists from setter Mike DeRocco,

and 66 team kills—including 19 from Joel Schmuland. Saturday's box score was much more befitting of the season thus far, as the Bears took a 3-0 sweep in just under an hour and a half. Still tops in Canada West, the Bears now come home to the Main Gym for a series with the Calgary Dinos this weekend.

### Pandas Volleyball

The Pandas volleyball team (8-0) continues to crank out victories with machine-like consistency. This weekend, the Thompson Rivers Wolfpack (1-7) were the unfortunate victims, suffering a pair of 3-0 defeats in Kamloops. On Friday, the 'Pack lost a close 25-23 first set before dropping the next two, both by scores of 25-15.

Saturday was even worse for the home team as Alberta rolled 25-14, 25-13, and 25-19. This weekend's sweep makes it six matches in a row where the Pandas haven't even lost a set—that's over a month of 3-0 wins. However, tougher competition will come next weekend when the Pandas welcome the Calgary Dinos to the Main Gym.

## Faculty of Education Information Sessions

### Becoming an Educator

November 19, 2008 5:00pm Tory 1-93

November 24, 2008 12:00pm Tory 1-91

November 26, 2008 12:00pm BioSc M145



### On This Day in 1985:

One of the most famous sports injuries of all time occurred when New York Giants linebacker Lawrence Taylor tackled Washington Redskins quarterback Joe Theismann, causing a compound fracture in his leg and ending his career in the process.

Watching Theismann's leg get re-arranged in a particularly disgusting manner is still pretty difficult—volunteering for Gateway Sports, contrary to popular belief, isn't. Meetings in 3-04 SUB Tuesdays at 5pm.

## GATEWAY SPORTS

Squirming at footage of gruesome leg fractures since 1910.



### 6th Annual Gateway Student Journalism Society Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Excellence

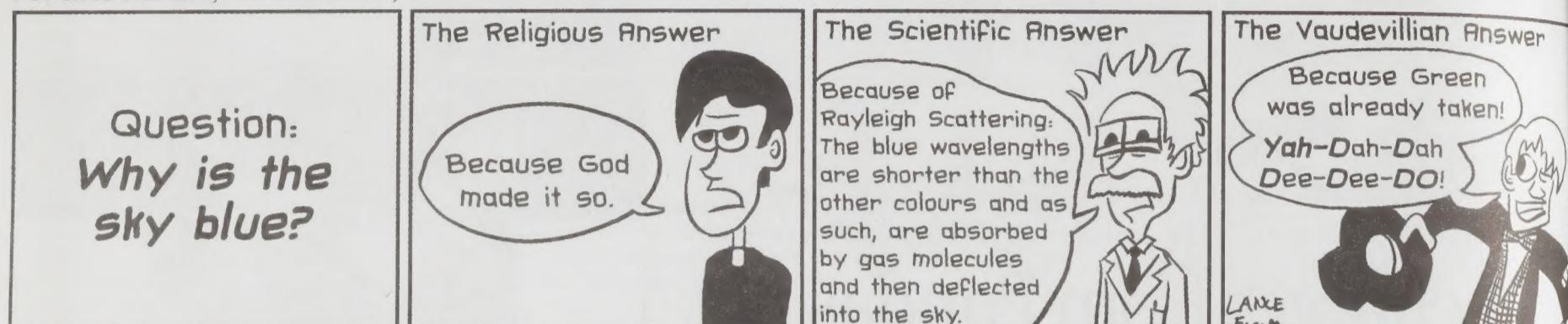
Established by the Gateway Student Journalism Society to recognize the benefits of autonomous media sources to the community, as well as the value of the student voice in an information-driven society. The Gateway has served the University of Alberta as a source of information and learning since 1910, and since achieving autonomy in the 2002/03 publishing year, has striven to further these goals as an independent voice in the campus media environment.

- To qualify for this award, a student must:
  - be enrolled in at least one (1) full-credit course at the University of Alberta during the academic year.
  - show active involvement in the campus community on a level that demonstrates the value of mass communication as a tool of the student voice.
  - not be a current or former paid staff member of a campus media organization.
- Preference will be given to those students who have actively contributed to some form of campus media (i.e. newspaper, radio, television, etc.).
- Two Gateway Student Journalism Society Awards for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Excellence will be offered, each consisting of a seven-hundred-and-fifty dollar (\$750.00) monetary prize and an engraved plaque.

## MAN VS NATURE by Conal Pierse



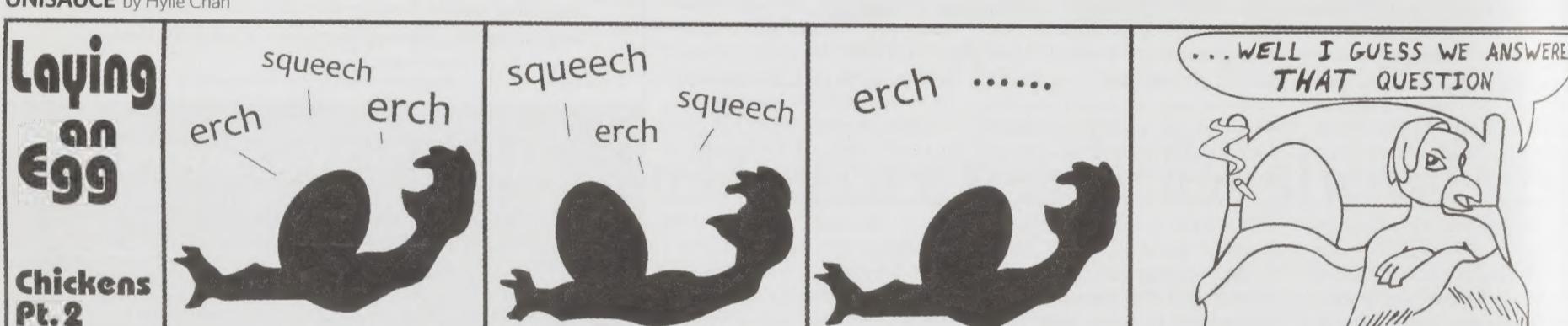
## POP &amp; ICE CREAM by Lance and Evan Mudryk



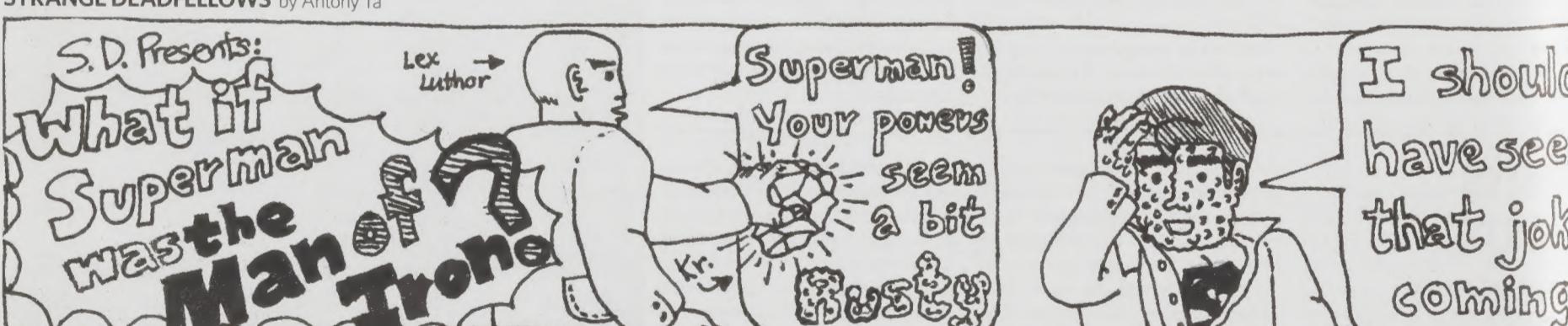
## WONDER WALRUS by Rory Fidler



## UNISAUCE by Hylie Chan



## STRANGE DEADFELLOWS by Antony Ta



## CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, please go to [www.campusclassifieds.ca](http://www.campusclassifieds.ca)

## FOR RENT

Looking for a place to live? Check out [www.rentingspaces.ca](http://www.rentingspaces.ca), the student housing registry. Free to search and free for students to post roommate listings!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you have mono? Would you like to try acupuncture for your symptoms for free? If you are between 15 and 25 please contact Denise at 780-232-7040 or [care@med.ualberta.ca](mailto:care@med.ualberta.ca)

Are atheists immoral? Talk by Dan Barker.

Nov 19 at 6PM in Tel 150

## EMPLOYMENT — FULL TIME

Are you looking for a career in music? Visionary College is looking for motivated guitar, piano and violin instructors to join their St. Albert location staff. We offer competitive wages and also comprehensive health and dental benefits in full time positions. Full-time or part-time we look forward to receiving your application. Please forward resumes by fax to (780)460-4431 or email: [stanl@visionarycollege.ab.ca](mailto:stanl@visionarycollege.ab.ca) or check out our website [www.visionarycollege.ab.ca](http://www.visionarycollege.ab.ca)

## EMPLOYMENT — PART TIME

Personal care aide required for male quadriplegic. Position 1 weekend live-in position, 2 weekends per month position 2 weekday live-in position, 2-3 days per

week. For both positions: Semi-flexible hours, plenty of time off during the day. No experience required, will train. Drivers licence required. Contact Mark @ [mholitzki@shaw.ca](mailto:mholitzki@shaw.ca) to apply or for more information

the avenue clothing co. is looking for a hard working individual to fill a part time sales associate position. We offer a great environment and competitive wages. Please apply with a resume to 10344 whyte avenue. Male quadriplegic requires live-in aide alternate weekends. Driver's license required, will train. 469-0603 or job08@telus.net

Are you trying to find a full or part time job that will work to your schedule that will pay you the highest in the industry? If so A cappella catering is the place you need to be. We are

currently hiring full and part time banquet servers and delivery drivers. We pay the highest wage in the industry with gratuities and bonus incentives. A valid drivers license is required. Come join the many U of A Students currently working here. Email your resume to [kims@acappella.ab.ca](mailto:kims@acappella.ab.ca).

An exam prep service for university students - seeks a student to put up posters on U of A campus starting immediately (6-8 hours/week) customized to your academic schedule. Some weekends. Contact [glen@prep101.com](mailto:glen@prep101.com)

Internationally recognized, fast-growing and innovative public firm is in search for: 1. Accounting Manager/Supervisor 2. Sales Manager 3. International Tax Analyst. These positions require an individual with

a minimum of 2 to 3 years experience with some continued education in Microsoft Office and other business related courses. Should you be interested and need more information about any of this position email detailed CV to [m.stonney@yahoo.com](mailto:m.stonney@yahoo.com)

## EMPLOYMENT — TEMPORARY

Mystery shoppers are wanted to evaluate customer service at women's clothing stores. [Uashop@aol.com](mailto:Uashop@aol.com)

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Eat for free! Between 18-75 yrs, BMI (Body Mass Index) 25-30 (will calculate for you). Study volunteers needed for 6 week nutrition study. 780-492-8463 (Jacqueline or Tina)

# The Gateway Fall 2008 Reader Survey:

## Even better than compiling your holiday shopping list

It's your turn to let us know what you think about the Gateway. Is it a twice-weekly tradition or blasphemous birdcage liner? Right-wing propaganda or pinko-commie rag?

Complete this survey and hand it in at the Gateway office in 3-04 SUB, or at InfoLink Information Booths in SUB, CAB, HUB, or ETLC by 12pm on Friday, 28 November, 2008 and you could win prizes!

How often do you read the Gateway?

Rarely    Monthly  
 Weekly    Twice weekly

How often do you read the Gateway Online?

Rarely    Monthly  
 Weekly    Twice weekly

The Gateway publishes:

Too many issues    Not enough issues    Just enough issues

The Gateway's issues are:

Too big    Too small    Just right

The Gateway's ad-to-content ratio is:

Too high (too many ads)    Too low (could stand for more ads)  
 Just the right balance

With 1 being your favourite, rank the sections of the Gateway from 1-6:

<input type="checkbox"/> News	<input type="checkbox"/> Opinion
<input type="checkbox"/> Sports	<input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> Comics	<input type="checkbox"/> Features

On average, how long do you spend reading each section of the Gateway (in minutes)?

<input type="checkbox"/> News	<input type="checkbox"/> Opinion
<input type="checkbox"/> Sports	<input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> Comics	<input type="checkbox"/> Features

What type of Gateway News articles do you read most?

Campus news    Local news    National news  
 Streeters    Science and technology    People profiles

What type of opinion articles do you read most?

Political commentary    Humour/satire    Student life  
 Weird/random musings    Point-Counterpoint

What type of A&E articles do you read most?

Film    Theatre    Music    Gaming  
 Visual arts    Commentaries

What sports would you like to see receive more coverage?

Are you aware that University of Alberta students pay a \$3.02 per-term student levy to help fund the Gateway?

Yes    No

Are you aware that the Gateway is autonomous from the SU and University?

Yes    No

Are you aware that any student can volunteer for the Gateway?

Yes    No

Rate the following from 1 to 5, where 1=wretched and 5=rad:

#### PRINT EDITION

How convenient do you find the Gateway's distribution points?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's News section?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the editorial cartoons?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's Arts & Entertainment section?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's Sports section?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's features?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's comics?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's illustrations?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the Gateway's photography?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the Gateway's layout and design?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the Gateway's coverage and representation of:

#### Women and women's issues

1 2 3 4 5

#### Visible minorities and minorities' issues

1 2 3 4 5

#### Undergraduate students and lifestyle

1 2 3 4 5

#### Local Issues and Edmonton lifestyles

1 2 3 4 5

#### SU policy and administration

1 2 3 4 5

#### University policy and administration

1 2 3 4 5

In general, how would you rate Gateway's relevance to students?

1 2 3 4 5

Overall, how would you rate Gateway this semester?

1 2 3 4 5

#### WEBSITE

How would you rate the Gateway Online's navigability and ease of use?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the design?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the timeliness of its content?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the search and archiving functions?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the blogs?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the RSS feeds?

1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the online archives?

1 2 3 4 5

Overall, how would you rate the Gateway Online?

1 2 3 4 5

#### Bonus Lightning Round!

What about the paper makes you want to pick it up?

If you or someone you know has decided to stop reading the Gateway, what were the reasons?

What would you like to see more or less of in the Gateway?

What improvements would you like to see to the Gateway Online?

What should each section of the paper (News, A&E, Sports, Opinion, Comics, Features) do that it currently doesn't?

What was the best article, photo, and/or illustration in the Gateway this semester?

Why?

What was the worst article, photo, and/or illustration in the Gateway this semester?

Why?

What were the best/worst front covers in the Gateway this semester? Why?

Who are your favourite Gateway writers/photographers/artists? Why?

Have you ever thought about volunteering for the Gateway? Why or why not?

Do you prefer to read the Gateway in print or online?

If you're a returning student, do you think the Gateway has gotten better or worse since you first started reading it? Why?

Please add any additional comments here:

Where do you live?  
 At home (with parents)    On campus  
 Off campus

How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you:  
 Male    Female    Other

What's your faculty/program?: \_\_\_\_\_

What year?: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

This survey is completely anonymous, but prizes will be awarded to randomly drawn surveys, including a \$100 Bookstore certificate, magazine subscriptions to *The Walrus*, *Harper's*, and *Maclean's*, Gateway T-shirts, frisbees, and toques; and tons of swag from our A&E fun sack!

Take the survey online at  
[www.thegatewayonline.ca/survey](http://www.thegatewayonline.ca/survey)

Every night is  
Student  
Night!  
at the Globe

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ALL NIGHT LONG!**

(Fridays & Saturdays)



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**10045 109 STREET**

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(780) 426-7111**

